F. 5.37

SEVERAL

TREATISES

Worthy of every True

CHRISTIANS

Serious Consideration.

BIBL. CANT. CAP.

The Contents of which follow Page I.

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THE TITLES.

I. *A Diſtinction betwixt the Prophets of God, Chriſt and his Miniſters and Meſſengers, and the Miniſters and Meſſengers of Satan; for the one preaches up Chriſt's Works and Things, and the other preaches up Satan's Works and his evil things.*

Wherein you may clearly ſee the outward Body of Man and Woman, is not the Body of Death nor Sins of the Fleſh, nor the old Man with his Deceitful Luſts, which muſt be put off; and how that Man and Woman had outward Bodies, before the Body of Death and Sins of the Fleſh, and the old Man came into them, and by what means they came into Man, and by what means they are caſt out again, while Men and Women are upon the Earth. And how that the Miniſters of Satan teach People, that they muſt carry about them a Body of Death and Sins of the Fleſh and Imperfection, whilſt on this ſide the Grave, which never did the Prophets of God, Chriſt, nor his Apoſtles preach any ſuch Doctrin.----And alſo, how no Perſecutor upon the Earth, for Faith, Worſhip and Religion, can exerciſe a good Conſcience towards God and Man, till they be Converted.

II. *Prieſts the chief Promoters of Perſecution, in the Prophets, Chriſt, and the Apoſtles days and ſince, and now the Lord is opening the Eyes of Peoples Underſtandings, that they will not let them ride upon them, as* Balaam *in his errour upon his Aſs, for his Wages of Unrighteouſneſs.*

III. *And*

III. *And what a Scabbed Flock the Biſhops and Prieſts have, which ſhould overſee them; and how the Magiſtrates are troubled with them to ſend them to the Goals, and tranſport them.*

IV. *And the bad Example of* Gehazi *and* Simon Magus, *to be ſhun'd.*

V. *Concerning the Prieſts and Profeſſors, that ſay they muſt do as the Prieſts ſay, not as they do.*

VI. *To all you Prieſts, Teachers and Profeſſors, that mock and ſcoff at the Motions of the Spirit.*

VII. *A Reformation from Heatheniſm and Popery,* &c.

VIII. *Concerning the Obſervation of Days, Months, Times and Years,* &c. *the Beggerly Elements of the World.*

IX. *Concerning the Builders that reject the Corner Stone; and the Husband-Men that kill the Lord's Servants and Son, and how* Cain *built the City* Nod, *and* Nimrod *the City and Tower* Babel, *and God hath ſet up his City, New and Heavenly* Jeruſalem, *and the Apoſtate Chriſtians have ſet up the City* Babilon, *ſince the Apoſtles days.*

X. *News, News,* Cain, Iſhmael, Eſau, Core Dathan *and* Abiram, Balaam *and old* Simon Magus *and his Followers, turned outward Chriſtians.*

XI. *Here you may ſee the Heavenly and Spiritual Gifts that God and Chriſt gives to his Miniſters, are not to be bought and ſold for Mony, and they that do are in the Bond of Iniquity, and Gall of Bitterneſs, like* Simon Magus.

XII. *How that ſuch as Kill and Perſecute People, are not like to convert them as the Apoſtles did.*

XIII. *Concerning the Papiſts making the Fleſh of Chriſt of Bread and Wine, and the Apoſtle ſaith, they knew Chriſt no more after the Fleſh, and how the formal Chriſtians take the Bread and Wine kneeling, in Remembrance of Chriſt's Death, and his Diſciples took it ſitting.*

XIV. *Concerning the Kingdom of God*

SEVE-

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TREATISES.

THE Proteſtant Prieſts, Miniſters and Teachers, preach to the People, and teach them both in publick and private, that they muſt carry a Body of Sin, and a Body of Death, as long as they live on this ſide the Grave; and none can be made free from Sin and this Body of Death, as long as they live upon the Earth. And they have ſo riveted this Doctrin into the People, of carrying a Body of Sin and Death, and a not being made free from it while upon the Earth, that both the Profeſſors and the Hearers, as well as the Prieſts, plead for this Body of Sin, Death and Imperfection while upon the Earth; and many of the Teachers and Profeſſors are ſo ignorant, that they ſay, the outward Body or Creature of Man and Woman, is the outward Body of Sin and Death; which Doctrin is utterly falſe, and they are quite miſtaken, for the Apoſtle ſaith, *The earneſt expectation of the Creature waiteth for the manifeſtation of the Sons of God, becauſe the Creature it ſelf ſhall alſo be delivered from the Bondage of Corruption, into the glorious Liberty of the Children of God*, Rom. 8. 19, 20, 21. So here it is clear that the outward Man of Fleſh Blood and Bones, is not the old Man with his Body of Death and Body of the Sins of the Fleſh. For the Apoſtle ſaith, *Knowing this, that our old Man is crucified with Chriſt, that the Body of Sin might be deſtroyed, that henceforth we ſhould not ſerve Sin, for he that is Dead is free from Sin, but now being made free*

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from Sin, and become Servants of God, that ye have your Fruits unto Holineſs, and your end Everlaſting Life, Rom. 6. 6. 7. 22. So you may ſee here that the Romans and the Church of Chriſt, and the Apoſtles as Men and Women were living, though the old Man of Sin was crucified.

And in the beginning, when God Almighty Created Man and Woman in his own Likeneſs and Image, *God Bleſſed them, and ſaid unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and repleniſh the Earth, and ſubdue it; and ſaid unto them, have Dominion over the Fiſh of the Sea, and over the Fowls of the Air, and over every Beaſt of the Earth; and over all the Earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the Earth; and God ſaw every thing that he had made, and behold it was very Good*, Gen. 1. 26. to the end.

Now here you may ſee all that God made was very good, Perfect and Bleſſed; and Man and Woman had no Body of Death, nor Body of Sin, though they had outward Bodies when God made them; and the Lord God planted a Garden and put them into it, to dreſs it and keep it, and ſaid unto them, *Of every Tree of the Garden thou mayſt eat freely, but of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil thou ſhalt not Eat; for in the day thou eateſt thereof, thou ſhalt ſurely die.*

Now here you may ſee *Adam* and *Eve* in Paradiſe, what commands God gave unto them, and as long as they kept under Gods Teaching, they kept in his Image, and were Bleſſed, perfect and happy, and they had Dominion over all that God made and the Serpent; and they had outward Bodies; yet they had no Body of Death nor Body of Sin, but were perfect, as you may ſee in *Gen.* 1. 2. For *Adam* ſaid, Eve *was Bone of his Bone, and Fleſh of his Fleſh.* So it is clear that their outward Body of Fleſh and Bone is not the Body of Death and Body of Sin; the old Man which muſt be Crucified and put off, as in *Rom.* 6. 6. And *Adam* and *Eve* had not this old Man, the Body of Death and Body of Sin when God made them, nor as long as they kept under Gods Teaching, but when they hearkned unto the Serpents falſe Teaching; for the Serpent ſaid unto the Woman, Yea, hath God ſaid *ye ſhall not eat of every Tree of the Garden? The Woman ſaid unto the Serpent, we may eat of the Fruit of the Trees of the Garden, but of the Fruit of the Tree which is in the midſt of the Garden, namely, of the Knowledge of Good and Evil, God hath ſaid ye ſhall not eat of it, neither ſhall ye touch it, leſt you die*; for God ſaid *in the day that thou*

thou eateſt thereof thou ſhalt ſurely die: The Serpent ſaid to the Woman, *ye ſhall not ſurely die, for God doth know that in the day you eat thereof, then your Eyes ſhall be opened, and ye ſhall be as Gods knowing Good and Evil.* Here the Devil was a Lyer and a Murderer from the Beginning, for he taught them to eat that which the Lord ſaid *in the day they did eat they ſhould ſurely die*, and the Serpent ſaid, *they ſhould not ſurely die, they ſhould be as Gods*, &c. So in this it is plainly ſeen, he was a Murderer and a Lyer from the Beginning; *and when the Woman ſaw that the Tree was good for Food, to wit, the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil*, which God ſaid *in the day that you eat thereof ye ſhall ſurely die*; here went out the Luſt of the Fleſh, *and ſhe ſaw that it was pleaſant to the Eyes*, here was the Luſt of the Eye to that which God forbad; *and ſhe ſaw it a Tree to be deſired to make one Wiſe*, here was the Pride of Life.

And *John* ſaith *for all that is in the World, the Luſt of the Fleſh, the Luſt of the Eyes, and the Pride of Life, is not of the Father, but is of the World, and the World paſſes away and the Luſt thereof, but he that doth the Will of God abideth forever*, 1 John 2. 16, 17. And *James* ſaith in his General Epiſtle to the Church of Chriſt, *But every Man is tempted when he is drawn away of his own Luſt, and enticed; then when Luſt hath conceived it brings forth Sin, and Sin, when it is finiſhed brings forth Death*, James 1. 14, 15. Now here is the Conception of the Body of Sin and Death, *and the old Man which is corrupt, according to the Deceitful Luſts*, Epheſ. 4. 22. Now here you may ſee clearly this old Man which Luſt hath conceived, which brings forth the birth of Sin and Death, and the Luſt of the Fleſh, Luſt of the Eye, and Pride of Life is not of the Father but of the World; ſo this old Man with his deceitful Luſts and body of Sin and Death, is not the outward Creature of Man and Woman nor his outward Fleſh and Blood which God hath made, for you may ſee *Adam* and *Eve* had no body of Death and body of Sin when God Almighty made them; but when they forſook God and diſobeyed his command, and forſook his teaching, and obeyed the Serpent's, the Lyer and Murderer's teaching, who abode not in the Truth, and ſo followed the Luſt of the Fleſh, the Luſt of the Eye, and the Pride of Life which is not of the Father. And ſo when Luſt had conceived it brought forth Sin, and when Sin had finiſhed it brought forth Death, and ſo there came the body of Sin, and body of Death into Man and Woman,

called the old Man with his deceitful Lusts, which hath a Wisdom below, which is Earthly, Sensual and Divilish, which is not from above; this Wisdom Man and Woman got by hearkning to the Serpent, and looking out at the Tree they thought to be made Wise, and became Fools. And after Man and Woman had transgressed the command of God, and disobeyed him in eating that which God forbad, and hearkning to the Serpent and obeying him, they died, and fell from the Image and Likeness of God, and his Wisdom, Power and Dominion, and then God drove them out of Paradise into the Earth. And though Man and Woman dyed from the Image and Likeness of God, of Righteousness and Holiness, and his Wisdom and Power, yet they were alive outwardly in the Earth, with their body of Death and sins of the Flesh, and had Children; and in process of time the Serpent the Devil that deceived them, and told them if they would eat of the Tree which God forbad them, and said *in the day they did eat they should not die, but be as Gods*, and so instead of their being Gods, the Devil the Prince of Darkness and the Air, came to be God of the World, which got in by disobedience and rules in the disobedient; and so I say in process of time, the Devil got the disobedient to make Gods of Stocks and Stones and to worship them; now all the Devils Messengers, Teachers, Ministers, Disciples, Prophets, Bishops and Shepherds, and his Angels and unclean Spirits, like the Devil that abode not in the truth, all these preach up a body of Death and a body of the sins of the Flesh, that Men must carry about them as long as they live whilst on this side the Grave, and say they must not be made free from Sin and this body of Death, whereas the body of Death and Sins of the Flesh, came into Man and Woman by disobeying God and forsaking his Teaching, and hearkning to the Devils teaching; and so the Devil and all his Messengers, Ministers, Prophets, Apostles, Priests, Bishops and Shepherds, study and labour with all their might in the Devils dark Power and unclean Spirit, to keep up the Devils works in Man and Woman, and tells them, there is no perfection here, no overcoming here while on this side the Grave. So they deny the end of Christ's coming, for God never sent any of his Prophets, nor his Son, nor his Apostles, to tell the People they must carry a body of Death, or a body of the sins of the Flesh to the Grave, but said, *be Ye Holy for I am Holy*; and *Peter* saith, he that hath called you is Holy, so be

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ye Holy in all manner of Converſation, 1 *Pet.* 1. 15. And for this purpoſe was the Son of God manifeſt that he might deſtroy the works of the Devil; and again, ye know that Chriſt was manifeſt to take away Sin, 1 *Joh.* 3. 5, 8. This is the Miniſters of Chriſts Doctrin, and the Blood of Chriſt cleanſeth from all ſins, 1 *Joh.* 1. 7. And he ſhall finiſh Tranſgreſſion, and make an end of Sin, and make Reconciliation for Iniquity, and bring in everlaſting Righteouſneſs, *&c.* to wit Chriſt, *Dan.* 9. 24 Now the Devils Teachers ſay you muſt have your ſin, and it is not taken away as long as you live, but you muſt carry about you the body of Death and Sins of the Fleſh to the Grave, which is the Devils works and his Miniſters Doctrin.

And *Peter* ſaith, foraſmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as Silver and Gold from your vain Converſation, *&c.* but with the precious Blood of Chriſt, as of a Lamb without blemiſh or ſpot, 1 *Pet.* 1. 18, 19. And the Apoſtle ſaith, Let us draw near with a true heart in full aſſurance of Faith, having our hearts ſprinkled from an evil Conſcience and our Bodies waſht with pure Water, *Heb.* 10. 22. And Chriſt ſanctifies his People with his own Blood, *Heb.* 13. 12. And *John* ſaith, Chriſt that loved us and waſhed us from our ſins in his own Blood, *Rev.* 1. 5. And again the Apoſtle ſaith, we have Redemption through the Blood of Chriſt, the forgiveneſs of Sins, *Epheſ.* 1. 7. And the Apoſtle ſaith, being juſtified by the Blood of Chriſt, *Rom.* 5. 9. So you may ſee the Doctrin of the Holy Apoſtles of Chriſt was not to preach up the body of Death and Sins to the Grave as Satans Miniſters do, but how they were waſhed and cleanſed and juſtified by the Blood of Chriſt.

The Lord ſaid, *Noah* was a Juſt and Perfect Man in his Generation, and walked with God. The Lord ſaid to *Abraham* I am God Almighty, walk before me and be thou perfect, *Gen.* 6. 9. *and* 17. 1. And the Lord ſaid unto the Jews, thou ſhalt be perfect with the Lord thy God, *Deut.* 18. 13. The Lord ſaid *Job* was a perfect and upright Man, one that feared God and eſchewed all evil, *Job* 1. 1. *and* 2. 3. *Solomon* ſaith, the path of the Juſt is a ſhining Light, which ſhines more and more unto the perfect day, *Prov.* 4. 18. And Chriſt ſaith be ye therefore perfect, even as your Heavenly Father which is in Heaven is perfect, *Matth.* 5. 48. *Zacharias* and his Wife *Elizabeth* were both

Righteous

Righteous before God, and walked in all the Commandments and Ordinances of the Lord blameleſs, *Luke* 1. 5, 6. The Apoſtle ſaith to the Corinthians, that ye be perfectly joyned together in the ſame mind and in the ſame judgment. And again the Apoſtle ſaith, we ſpeak Wiſdom among them that are Perfect, 1 *Cor.* 1. 10. *and* 2. 6. And the Apoſtle ſaith, let us cleanſe our ſelves from all Filthineſs of the Fleſh and Spirit, perfecting Holyneſs in the fear of the Lord, 2 *Cor.* 7. 1. And the Apoſtle ſaith to the Corinthians, we wiſh even your perfection: Finally Brethren farewel, be ye perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, *&c.* 2 *Cor.* 13. 9, 11. And *James* ſaith, let Patience have its perfect work, that ye may be perfect, and entire, wanting nothing, *Jam.* 1. 4. And the Apoſtle ſaid, ſtrong Meat belongeth to them that are of full age or perfect, let us go on to perfection, *Heb.* 5. 14. *and* 6. 1. And *Peter* ſaith to the Saints, the God of all Grace who hath called us into his eternal Glory by Chriſt Jeſus, after that ye have ſuffered a while make you perfect, eſtabliſh, ſtrengthen and ſettle you, 1 *Pet.* 5. 10. And the Apoſtle ſaith, that the Man of God may be perfect, *&c.* 2 *Tim.* 3. 17. And you may ſee in *Epheſ.* 4. how Chriſt gives Gifts unto Men for the work of the Miniſtry, and for the perfecting of the Saints, and for the edifyſing of the body of Chriſt, till we all come into the Unity of the Faith and the Knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect Man, unto the meaſure of the ſtature of the fulneſs of Chriſt, *Epheſ.* 4. *to the* 14. And again the Apoſtle ſaith, Chriſt in you the hope of glory whom we preach, warning every Man, and teaching every Man in all Wiſdom, that we may preſent every Man perfect in Chriſt Jeſus, 1 *Col.* 8. 20.

Now here it may be clearly ſeen, God, Chriſt, his Prophets and Apoſtles call and encourage to Perfection, and juſtifie the Perfect; and the work of the Miniſters of Chriſt was and is to preſent every Man perfect in Chriſt Jeſus, and bring them to a perfect Man. So here it is clearly ſeen from *Geneſis* to *Revelations*, never did God, the Prophets, Chriſt nor his Apoſtles preach up a Doctrin to People, and tell them they ſhould not be perfect, but they muſt carry a body of Sin and Death whilſt they are upon the Earth to the Grave. So is it not clear here that all ſuch are Satan's Miniſters and Preachers, and not God's nor Chriſt's, that ſay People muſt be imperfect, and have a body of Sin and Death whilſt upon the Earth, which body of Sin and

Imper-

Imperfection came into Man and Woman, by diſobeying God and hearkening to the Devil and obeying him, and ſo his Miniſters preach up the Devil, and his Works which Chriſt came to deſtroy, and Chriſt through Death deſtroys Death, and the Devil, the Power of Death, and bruiſes the Serpent's head.

Now the Scriptures that the Miniſters of Satan uſed to bring for a Body of Sin, and a Body of Death and Imperfection are as follow. *David* was a Sinner cry they, and cryed out of his Sins and Iniquities after he had committed Adultery and Murther, &c. but he confeſſed his Sins and Tranſgreſſions, and ſaid, My Sins are ever before me, *Pſal.* 51. throughout. But *David* ſaid, as far as the Eaſt is from the Weſt, ſo far hath he, to wit, the Lord, removed our Tranſgreſſions from us; and ſaid, Bleſs the Lord O my Soul, and all that is within me, Bleſs thy Holy Name; and again, Bleſs the Lord O my Soul, and forget not all his Benefits, who hath forgiven all thine Iniquities, who hath healed all thy Diſeaſes, *Pſal.* 103. 1, 2, 3, 11, 12.

Now here you may ſee Satan's Miniſters and Preachers take *David*'s Sins and Tranſgreſſions, which Satan tempted him to run out into; but how the Lord had forgiven *David* all his Iniquities, and healed all his Diſeaſes, and his Tranſgreſſions were removed as far as the Eaſt was from the Weſt, and how that all within him praiſed God; theſe Scriptures are againſt Satan and his Miniſters, and are not for their purpoſe.

And again, Satan's Miniſters ſay, that the Righteouſeſt Man that is ſins ſeven Times a Day, and this both Prieſts and Profeſſors have affirmed to my Face that it was Scripture, but I ſearched the Scriptures, and never found any ſuch Scripture. But *Solomon* ſaith, Lay not wait O wicked Man againſt the dwellings of the Righteous: Spoil not his Reſting-place, for a Juſt Man falleth ſeven Times, and riſes again, but the Wicked ſhall fall into Miſchief, *Prov.* 24. 15, 16. Now here is no ſeven times a Day, and though *David* did fall yet he roſe again and was healed, and his Iniquities were removed, as far as the Eaſt is from the Weſt.

But hear what *Solomon* ſaith concerning the Church; Thou art all fair, my Love, there is no Spot in thee, *Cant.* 3. 7. Open to me my Siſter, my Love, my Dove, my Undefiled, *Cant.* 5. 7. So *Solomon* is far from ſaying, ſhe had a Body of Death, and a Body of Sin; And *David* ſaith, Mark the perfect Man, and behold the upright, for the End of that Man is Peace, *Pſal.* 37. 37. But Satan

and

and his Miniſters will not allow there is any perfect Man, and upright to be mark'd; for the Devil who is blind hath blinded his Miniſters, that they can neither behold nor mark the perfect Man.

And another Scripture Satan's Miniſters bring of *Peter's* ſaying to Chriſt, though I ſhould die with thee yet I would not deny thee; and after *Peter* was examined, he curſed and ſwore, and ſaid he did not know the Man, namely Chriſt, *Mat.* 26. 25, 70. to the end. But in the 75 *verſe*, you may ſee *Peter* repented of what he had ſaid, and wept bitterly. And Chriſt ſaid unto *Peter* after he was riſen, when thou art converted ſtrengthen thy Brethren, *Luke* 22. 32. So it ſeems that *Peter* was not wholly converted when he denied Chriſt. And Satan's Meſſengers ſay that *Judas* was partaker of the Miniſtry, who carried the Bag and betrayed Chriſt, he was like unto the Devil, who abode not in the Truth; and is not covetous *Judas's* Bag intailed upon all Satan's Miniſters and Meſſengers, and do not they hold it by Intail, and are they not worſe than *Judas*? For *Judas* put in his Bag what People gave him, but had not a Law or Staff to compel People to put in his Bag, nor caſt any in Priſon, as Satan's Miniſters and Meſſengers do, and have done.

And again Satan's Meſſengers and Miniſters ſay, *Paul* cryed out and ſaid, O wretched Man that I am, who ſhall deliver me from this body of Death! And he was in a warfare, and therefore People muſt be in a warfare, and carry a body of Death, and a body of Sin about with them as long as they live to the Grave, and there is no overcoming nor no victory here; but in this, Satan's Meſſengers and Miniſters wrong the Apoſtles words, and and do not take them all, for when he cryed out who ſhall deliver him from that body of Death and Sin! He thanks God through Jeſus Chriſt our Lo[illegible] and ſaith, the Law of the Spirit of Life which is in Chriſt Jeſus, hath made me free from the Law of Sin and Death: Mark, he ſaid Chriſt Jeſus had made him free, as in *Rom.* 7. 24, 25. *and* 8. 1, 2. And ſaid there was no condemnation to them that are in Chriſt Jeſus, who walk not after the Fleſh, but after the Spirit: And again he ſaith, Thanks be to God, who hath given us the Victory through our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, 1 *Cor.* 15. 57. And again he ſaith, they that be in Chriſt are new Creatures. And again the Apoſtle ſaith, I have fought the good Fight, I have finiſhed my Courſe, I have kept the Faith, 2 *Tim.* 4. 7.

Then

Then the Apoſtle if he had fought the good fight, he was not fighting; and having kept the Faith he kept the Victory; for Faith is the Victory. And *John* ſaith, this is the Victory that overcomes the World, even our Faith, 1 *John* 5. 4. And Jeſus Chriſt is the Author and Finiſher of our Faith, *Heb.* 12. 2. So here you may ſee the Apoſtle had fought and kept the Faith of Chriſt which is the victory. So he was not always fighting and warring as Satan's Meſſengers would have it, who was a Lyer from the beginning; for the Apoſtle ſaid, I am crucified with Chriſt, nevertheleſs I live (mark, live) yet not I, but Chriſt liveth in me; and the life which I now live in the Fleſh, I live by the Faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himſelf for me, *Gal.* 2. 20.

And the Apoſtle ſaith, that ye put off the former Converſation, the old Man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful Luſts, and that ye put on the new Man, which after God is created in Righteouſneſs; now this new Creation, the Devil's Meſſengers and Miniſters are ignorant of, and true Holineſs, *Epheſ.* 4. 22, 24. Now theſe were the Miniſters of Chriſt that preacht this true Doctrin, but the Miniſters and Meſſengers of Satan ſay, they muſt carry the old Man, which is corrupt, with his deceitful Luſts, while they are upon the Earth, to the Grave with them. And again the Apoſtle ſaith to the Church of Chriſt the Coloſſians, ſeeing that ye have put off the old Man with his Deeds, and have put on the new Man, which is renewed in knowledge after the Image of God that created him, and ye are compleat in him, *viz.* Chriſt, which is the Head of all Principality and Power, in whom alſo ye are Circumciſed with the Circumciſion, made without Hands, in putting off the body of the Sins of the Fleſh, by the Circumciſion of Chriſt, *Col.* 2. 10, 11. and 3. 9, 10.

And here you may ſee the true Chriſtians were circumciſed with the Spirit, and they had put off the old Man with his Deeds, and his body of Death, and put on the new Man which is after God, &c. and were compleat in Chriſt their Head, while they were upon the Earth, before they went to the Grave; but Satan and his Meſſengers and Miniſters and Hearers ſay, that they muſt carry the body of Death and ſins of the Fleſh, with the old Man and his Deeds, while they are upon the Earth; but I ſay, by diſobeying God, and hearkning to the Serpent's teaching, this body of Death and Sins of the Fleſh, with the old Man with his deceit-

ful Luſts came into Man and Woman who had none before, and now the Devil and his Teachers ſay, they muſt carry this body of Death and Sins of the Fleſh, and the old Man and his Luſts as long as they live upon the Earth, till they go to the Grave; but Chriſt's Miniſters ſay to the Believers in Chriſt, they had put off the old Man and his Deeds, and the body of the ſins of the Fleſh, with the Circumciſion of the Spirit while they are upon the Earth; but the Circumciſion of Chriſt with his Holy Spirit, Satan and his Miniſters with his unclean Spirit deny while they are upon the Earth. And therefore the Devil's Meſſengers and Hearers, do carry a body of Death and the ſins of the Fleſh, and the old Man with his deceitful Luſts as long as they live, to the Grave; and this is the Devil's Doctrin, and not Chriſt's nor his Apoſtles.

And the Apoſtle ſaid to the Believers in Chriſt, we have Redemption through his Blood, *Col.* 1. 14. And again the Apoſtle ſaith to the Epheſians, we have Redemption through Chriſt's Blood, the forgiveneſs of our ſins, *Epheſ.* 1. 7. And the Lord ſaith, their Sins and Iniquities I will remember no more, *Heb.* 8. 12. And the Apoſtle ſaid to the Jews, Repent ye therefore and be Converted that your Sins may be blotted out, *Acts* 3. 19 So if People do Repent and be Converted, then their Sins are blotted out, then they are not like to carry their body of Death nor read their Sins, when they are forgiven and blotted out; and this is a contrary Doctrin to the Devil and his Miniſters, who ſay, they muſt carry this Body of Death and Sins to the Grave.

John ſaid, the Devil ſinned from the beginning, and he that committeth Sin is of the Devil; and for this purpoſe the Son of God is manifeſt that he might deſtroy the Works of the Devil, and Chriſt was manifeſt to take away our Sins, and in him is no Sin, and whoſoever abideth in him Sinneth not, and whoſoever is born of God doth not commit Sin, for his Seed remains in him and he cannot Sin, becauſe he is born of God; in this the Children of God are manifeſt from the Children of the Devil, 1 *John* 3. 5. to the 11.

Now concerning the Devil's Miniſters, Meſſengers and Teachers, who ſay, there is no victory nor overcoming on this ſide the Grave. But *John* ſaith in his General Epiſtle to the Church of Chriſt, I have written to you young Men becauſe you are ſtrong, and

and the word of God abideth in you, and you have overcome the wicked one, 1 *John* 2. 14. This is contrary to the Devil's Miniſters and Meſſengers, that ſay, there is no overcoming Sin which is of the wicked one, on this ſide the Grave. But *John* a Miniſter of God writes to the young Men in Chriſt and tells them, they had overcome the wicked one, and that was whilſt they were upon the Earth, and could read his Epiſtle.——And again the Apoſtle *John* ſaith, whoſoever is born of God overcometh the World, and this is the victory that overcomes the World even our Faith; this *John* ſaid to the Believers in Chriſt while they were upon the Earth, and if they overcome the World of Wickedneſs, then they overcome the Devil, the God of the World, 1 *John* 5. 4. And who is he that overcometh the World, but he that believeth that Jeſus is the Son of God? And he that believeth is born of God. Here you may ſee the Devil's Meſſengers, Miniſters, Hearers and Teachers, are not in this true belief born of God that overcomes the wicked World, neither are they in the true Faith, which Chriſt is the Author of, which overcometh the World, and gives the victory over the World which lyeth in wickedneſs, and is the Shield that quenches all the fiery darts of Satan, 1 *John* 4. 5, 19. And *John* ſaith to the Followers of Chriſt, little Children ye have overcome them (to wit Satan and his Miniſters,) becauſe greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the World, 1 *John* 4. 3, 4. And again *John* ſaith to the Believers in Chriſt, every Man that hath this Hope purifies himſelf, even as he is pure, 1 *John* 3. 3. *Col.* 1. 27.

Now Satan's Meſſengers and Miniſters denies this Hope that purifieth People while they are upon the Earth, as Chriſt is pure; they are in the Hope of the Hypocrite and a dead Faith, as in *Jam.* 2. 17, 18, 20. And though they may call themſelves Believers, and ſay there is one God; the Devils believe and tremble, ſo may a vain Man in a dead Faith, in which there is no victory, over the body of Death and Sin whilſt upon the Earth, as they ſay.

And Chriſt ſaith, verily verily I ſay unto you, he that heareth my Word, and believeth on him that ſent me, hath everlaſting Life, and ſhall not come into Condemnation, but is paſſed from Death unto Life, *John* 5. 24. Now if the Believers in Chriſt are paſt from Death to Life, and have everlaſting Life, and ſhall not come into Condemnation, then they are not like to carry the

body of Death, if they be paſſed from the Death in *Adam*, to the Life in Chriſt; but Satan's Prieſts Miniſters and Teachers cannot be the true Believers, that ſay, they muſt carry a body of Death to the Grave; ſuch remain under condemnation, in the Death in *Adam*, by the light of Chriſt, *John* 5. 24. And Chriſt ſaith, I am the light of the World, and whoſoever believeth on me ſhall not abide in Darkneſs.——Now if the Believers in Chriſt do not abide in darkneſs, then they do not abide under the Devil the power of Darkneſs, for *John* ſaith, he that believeth overcomes the World, then the Worlds God, *John* 12. 46. and 1 *John* 5. 5. Again *John* ſaith, we know that ye are paſſed from Death to Life, 1 *John* 3. 14. This was while they were upon the Earth, then they were paſſed from the body of Death, and the Devil the power of Death, which Satan's Miniſters, Prieſts and Teachers plead for, which firſt came in by hearkening to Satan's teaching, and forſaking God's teaching.——And by hearkning to God and Chriſt's teaching, they came out of Death and Darkneſs, and put off the body of Death and ſins of the Fleſh, and put off the old Man with his Deeds while they are upon the Earth, and put on the new Man, which after God is created in Righteouſneſs and true Holineſs, whilſt upon the Earth, *Epheſ.* 4. 24 And ſo they that be in Chriſt are new Creatures, and old things are paſſed away. And again the Apoſtle ſaith to the Saints, ſeeing that ye have put off the old Man with his Deeds, and have put on the new Man which is renewed in Knowledge after the Image of him that created him, *Col.* 3. 9, 10. And this was while they were upon the Earth; and ſo it is clear the outward body is not the body of Death and body of Sin, nor the old Man, for after the old Man is crucified, and the body of Death and ſins of the Fleſh put off, the Saints Bodies are the Members of Chriſt, and the Temple of the Holy Ghoſt, and the Temple of the Living God, as God hath ſaid, I will dwell in them, and walk in them, and I will be their God, and they ſhall be my People; and this was while they were upon the Earth, before they went to the Grave, *Rom.* 6. 6. 1 *Cor.* 6. 15, 19. 2 *Cor.* 6. 16.

And the Apoſtle ſaith, but now Chriſt once in the end of the World hath appeared to put away Sin by the Sacrifice of himſelf, and Chriſt ſaid, I come to do the Will of God, by which Will we are ſanctified through the offering of the body of Jeſus Chriſt

Christ once for all, for by one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified, *Heb.* 9. 26. and 10. 9, 10, 14.

Now here you may see Christ putteth away Sin, and we are sanctified by the Will through which he came in, and through the offering of his body once for all, and by his one offering he hath perfected forever them that are sanctified, but such as do not believe to have their sins put away, and to be sanctified and perfected; here they do not believe in Christ the one Sacrifice and Offering.——It is a general saying by the Priests, Teachers, and Professors, that none keep the commands of God, so in this they would make the commands of God grievous, who say, none can live to keep the Commandments of God; the Lord saith thou shalt have no other Gods besides me (to wit) who is your Maker and Creator, and what cannot you live, but you must make Gods and Graven-Images, or Likenesses of things in Heaven or in the Earth, or in the Waters and bow down to them? And cannot you live, but you must dishonour your Father and Mother? And cannot you live, but you must take the Name of the Lord God in vain? And cannot you live, but you must Kill, Steal, commit Adultery, and bear false Witness against your Neighbour? And cannot you live, but you must Covet your Neighbours House, and his Wife, and his Man-Servant, Maid-Servant, Ox, or Ass?

The young Man in the Gospel, told Christ that from his Youth he had kept the commands of God, though he could not sell all and give to the Poor and follow Christ, who is the end of the Law for Righteousness sake to every one that believes, *Mat.* 19. 20, 21. *Rom.* 10. 4. *Zachariah* and his Wife were both Righteous, walking in all the Commandments and Ordinances of the Lord blameless; surely they kept the Commandments and Ordinances of God then, if they walked in them blameless as before. And the Apostle said to the Galatians, all the Law is fulfilled in one Word, even in this, thou shalt love thy Neighbour as thy Self, *Gal.* 5. 14. And the Apostle saith to the Romans, owe no Man any thing but to love one another, for he that loves another fulfilleth the Law, for he that loveth God, will not make any other Gods; Love will not take Gods name in vain; Love will not dishonour Father nor Mother; Love doth not Kill, Steal, commit Adultery, nor bear false Witness; Love doth not covet Neighbours House, Wife, Servant, Ox or Ass; he that loves his Neighbour as himself, this love works no evil to his Neighbour;

there-

therefore Love is the fulfilling of the Law, *Rom.* 13. 8, 9, 10. Now they that be out of this Love of God, say they cannot keep the Commands of God, but they do not say they cannot keep the Commands of the Devil, they are easie enough to them, and the old World the Earth was corrupted by them, and the Earth was filled with violence, all Flesh had corrupted its way upon the Earth, *Gen.* 6. 11, 12. And the Lord brought a Flood upon them and destroyed them, saving *Noah* and his Family, and the Lord turned the City of *Sodom* and *Gomorah* into Ashes, and delivered just *Lot*, whose Soul was vext from day to day with their unlawful deeds, as in 2 *Pet.* 2. 2, 6, 7, 8. Mark, their unlawful deeds, those unlawful deeds were easie enough for them, though the deeds of the Law were hard enough for them as they say now; and you may see in *Rev.* 19. 2. the Judgment of the great Whore which did corrupt the Earth, which is called the Mistery of *Babilon* or Confusion, the Mother of Harlots and Abomination of the Earth, *Rev.* 17. 5.

Now this Whore or false Church, which is Whored from Christ and corrupted the Earth, which rideth upon the Beast, and sitteth upon the Peoples, Multitudes, Nations and Tongues, which are called Waters, and is not this Whore or false Church called a Cage of unclean Birds? And hath not she her Teachers among the Nations, Peoples, Multitudes and Tongues? And did not the Dragon give his power to the Beast, that this Whore the false Church rideth upon like *Balaam* upon his Ass? And is it like for the Beast, *Rev.* 16. 13. in the Dragons power, which the Whore the false Church rideth upon? Or for the false Prophet or the unclean Spirits, *Rev.* 17. 8, 15. like Frogs that went out of the mouth of the Beast and the false Prophet? Or for the Peoples, Multitudes, Nations and Tongues, that the Whore that corrupteth the Earth sitteth upon, and hath made them like Waters? I say, is it like for all these to own perfection, and overcome the old Man and his Lusts, and the body of Death and sins of the Flesh, whilst on this side the Grave? And though all these do make War against the Lamb and the Saints, the Lamb I say that takes away the Sins of the World, he shall and will overcome them, for he is Lord of Lords, and King of Kings, and they that are with him are called Chosen and Faithful. And will not the Whore and the Beast in the Dragons power, false Prophets and all their Followers say that none can keep the Law of God and his

his Commands, but they will not ſay, they cannot keep the Beaſts, Whores, Dragons and falſe Prophets. The Apoſtle ſaith the Law is Spiritual Juſt and Good, *&c.* And *David* ſaith the Law is Light, and how are Men like to keep the Law of God which is Spiritual, and be whored from the Spirit of God and hate his Light and be out of the Truth and do it not? And is not the end of the Whore, Beaſt, falſe Prophet, Dragon or Devil, and all his Followers to be conſumed and deſtroyed with Fire as the old World was by Water? And the Beaſt, falſe Prophet, and Whore or falſe Church that take their power from the Devil, that abode not in the truth, and ſet up a worſhip, and compel others to that worſhip, and to drink that Whores Cup that is Whored from the Truth, they that worſhip God in his Spirit and Truth as Chriſt commands, and hath ſet up, cannot drink the Whores Cup, nor cannot bow to the Dragon the Beaſts worſhip, which hath been ſet up by the Dragons power, which is out of the Truth.

Job ſaith no Man knows the price of Wiſdom, it cannot be gotten for Gold nor Silver, neither ſhall Silver be weighed for the price thereof, for it cannot be valued with the Gold of Opher or with precious Onix, or Saphire, or Pearls, or Corril or Rubies; now all theſe and many other things may be purchaſed with the price of Gold and Silver, and all the Hiſtories, Libraries, and all the Books and Authors in the World may be purchaſed with Gold and Silver, and all the Sciences and natural Arts, theſe may all be purchaſed and learned for Gold and Silver, and that which the World calls Philoſophy and its Books, may all be purchaſed for Gold and Silver, and all outward Knowledge, Wiſdom and Underſtanding, which they may get a great deal of Knowledge from this Tree without Life, and the true and heavenly Wiſdom, and be like unto the Fowls of the Air, and the Lyons Whelps, and the fierce Lyons and ravenous Beaſts, but no unclean thing comes in the way and path of the heavenly wiſdom, which cannot be gotten nor bought for Gold nor Silver nor precious Stones nor Jewels nor fine Gold, for Man knows not the price of it, *Job* 28. *Iſa.* 35. And unto Man God ſaid, behold the fear of the Lord, that is Wiſdom, and to depart from evil is Underſtanding.—So it is clear, they that fear God and depart from evil, ſhall have both Wiſdom and Underſtanding, though they have not gone to the Schools and Colledges to learn the Prieſts

seven Arts and Sciences, and without the great Shops of old Histories and Authors, and the Worlds Philosophy, which those things may puff up the Fowls of the Air, and the Vultures and the Ravenous Beasts with the outward Tree of Knowledge without Life. The Lord saith every Man is bruitish by his Knowledge, and again he saith, every Man is bruitish in his Knowledge, the Pastors are become bruitish and have not sought the Lord, *Jer.* 10. 14, 21. and 57. 17.

Here you may see what Men get by their outward Knowledge, for when *Adam* and *Eve* fed upon the Tree of Knowledge, then the Lamb was slain in them from the Foundation of the World; and when the Lamb Christ was manifest in the Flesh, then they that were in this outward bruitish Knowledge and Wisdom below, crucified Christ outwardly without the Gates of *Jerusalem*; and after when Christianity was spread up and down the World, and many got an outward form of Christianity and denyed the Power, and got into this bruitish outward Knowledge and Wisdom below, they crucified to themselves Christ afresh, as in *Heb.* 6. 6. And the Beast and Whore was and is in this bruitish Knowledge and Wisdom below, that killed the Lord's Witnesses, and the Martyrs, and compelled all the World to worship, and to drink the Whores Cup, and all did drink and worship, but whose Names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life, slain from the Foundation of the World, *Rev.* 13. 8. And the Beast in the Dragon's power, with the seven Heads and ten Horns, which the Whore or false Church rideth upon, as *Balaam* did upon his Ass, and this Whore or false Church, sitteth or rideth upon Peoples, Multitudes, Nations and Tongues, which are called Waters. So she makes Peoples, Multitudes, Nations and Tongues, like *Balaams* Ass, and these ten Horns of the Beast are ten Kings, which received power from the Dragon, and these ten Kings or ten Horns, should hate the Whore or false Church, and make her desolate and burn her with Fire, which is the great City, which reigns over the Kings of the Earth; so these ten Kings that hate the Whore the false Church, and burn her with Fire, will not then suffer her to reign over them, and ride upon them like *Balaam* upon his Ass, *Rev.* 17. 1. to the end; for Glory to the Lord God forever, Christ reigns in all his true Believers and Followers, who is the Prince of Life and Peace, who was before the Devil, Beast, Whore and his Followers were, and will be when they are all gone.

And

And *John* ſaid, there appeared a Wonder in Heaven, a great red Dragon, having ſeven Heads and ten Horns, and ſeven Crowns upon his Head, the old Serpent, the Devil, and Satan. Was not this a proud Devil? and his Tayl drew the third part of the Stars from Heaven, (had not theſe been ſome Stars in the Church?) and caſt them to the Earth; theſe Stars were Lights in the Night; but he was caſt out of Heaven, and perſecuted the Woman the true Church, which had the Moon under her Feet. And *John* ſaw a Beaſt riſe out of the Sea, having ſeven Heads and ten Horns, and upon his Head ten Crowns, and was not this a proud Beaſt? and the Dragon gave the Beaſt his power and his Seat and great Authority, and the World worſhiped this proud Dragon and the Beaſt, and the Beaſt opened his Mouth in the Devil's power, in Blaſphemy againſt God, to Blaſpheme his Name, Tabernacle, and them that dwelt in Heaven, after the Dragon was caſt out of Heaven. So here you may ſee ſome dwelt in Heaven, and ſat in the Heavenly Places in Chriſt Jeſus, *Rev.* 12. 13. And *John* ſaid, I ſaw a Woman ſit upon a Scarlet coloured Beaſt, full of Names and Blaſphemy, having ſeven Heads and ten Horns, and this Woman the falſe Church that rid upon the Beaſt, was arrayed in Purple Scarlet colour, decked with Gold, precious Stones and Pearls, having a Golden Cup in her Hand, full of Abomination and Filthineſs of her Fornication, and upon her Forehead was a Name written, Myſtery of *Babilon*, Mother of Harlots, who was drunk with the Blood of the Saints and Martyrs of Jeſus; was not this a proud Whore falſe Church, that rideth upon the Beaſt, that riſe out of the Sea, in the Devil's Seat Power and Authority? Muſt not this proud Whore the falſe Church be burnt, and this proud Devil, Dragon and Beaſt, and their Followers go into Perdition, and the Lake of Fire, (*Rev.* 17. and 19. 20. and 20. 10). And the Lamb and the Saints will have the Victory, *Hallelujah*.

Gooſes the 1ſt Month, 16..

AND *Job* ſaith, though after my Skin Worms deſtroy this Body, yet in my Fleſh ſhall I ſee God, *Job* 19. 26. Satan's Meſſengers ſay, that muſt not be in this Life, but in another World; but afterwards *Job* ſaid unto the Lord, I have heard of thee by the hearing of the Ear, but now mine Eye ſeeth thee,

Job 42. 5. And this was while *Job* was alive upon the Earth; Another Scripture Satan's Meſſengers bring againſt Perfection, Shall Mortal Man be more juſt than God, ſhall a Man be more pure than his Maker? he charges his Angels with Folly, *Job* 4. 17, 18. Again, how can he be clean that is born of a Woman? *Job* 25. 4. And again, what is Man that he ſhould be clean, and he that is born of a Woman ſhould be Righteous? *Job* 15. 14, 15. Now theſe were not *Job's* words but *Eliphaze's* the *Temanite*, which contended againſt *Job*, as in *Job* 4. 1, 17, 18. and 15. 14, 15. and *Bildad* the *Shewhite's* words that contended againſt *Job*, as in *Job* 25. 4. For God ſaid *Job* was a perfect and upright Man, that feared God and eſcued all Evil, *Job* 1. 8. and 2. 3. So theſe were the words with which *Job's* miſerable Comforters contended againſt *Job*, which Satan's Miniſters bring againſt perfection.

And *John* ſaw an hundred and forty four thouſand, having their Fathers name written in their Foreheads, which were not defiled, which followed the Lamb, in whoſe Mouth was found no Guile, for they were without fault before the Throne of God: And beſides, *John* ſaid, he ſaw a great Multitude, which no Man could number, of all Nations, Kindreds and Tongues ſtood before the Throne and before the Lamb, cloathed with white Robes, and Palms in their Hands, crying with a loud voice, ſaying, Salvation unto our God which ſitteth upon the Throne, and unto the Lamb, *Rev.* 7. 5. to the 11. and 14. 1. to the 6.

Now the Meſſengers and Miniſters of Satan do not ſee theſe, but he is a Miniſter of Chriſt that ſees theſe Holy People, that followed the Lamb, that was without fault or guile.

And *Peter* ſaith in his General Epiſtle to the Church of Chriſt, ye are a choſen Generation, a holy Nation, built up a Spiritual Houſe; a Holy Royal Prieſthood to offer up Spiritual Sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jeſus Chriſt, as in 1 *Pet.* 2. 5, 8, 9. Then ſurely theſe had put off the body of Death and Sins of the Fleſh, and the old Man with his deceitful Luſts.

HERE you may ſee, how the Prieſts in all ages turned againſt the Righteous and perſecuted and killed them. See how *Cain* the Prieſt was full of wrath, and killed Righteous *Abel* in the Field, and what was the end of *Cain*, *Gen.* 4. 5, 8.

And you may ſee how *Corah* and his Company, and *Dathan* and *Abiram* oppoſed *Moſes* and *Aaron*, and how the Lord did conſume them

them (as in *Numb.* 16. Chap. through out) in their Rebellion; and what became of old *Ely* that reproved his two Sons, but did not restrain them, as you may see in 1 *Sam.* 4. Chap. throughout; and the badness of the Priests you may see in the second Chap. And how the Lord sent *Samuel* the Child to admonish old *Ely*, for not restraining his Sons from their wickedness, and for the wickedness of the Priests, God brought his great judgments upon *Israel*, and see how the Man of God cryed against *Jeroboam* and his Altar and Priests, 1 *King* 12. 13.

And did not his Prophecy come upon them in 2 *Chron.* 23. 17, 18. Chap. You may see what Priests they ordained, 2 *Chron.* 11. 15. And you may see what work *Joshua* made with *Balaam's* Altars and his Idols and Priests, how he purged the Land of them, 2 *Chron.* 34. 3. to 9. And you may see what work *Jehu* made with *Baal's* Worshipers, Prophets and Priests, 2 *King* 10. And the Lord commended *Jehu*. And it had been well for him and his Children, if they had not followed the sins of *Jeroboam*, who made *Israel* to sin, but walked in the Law of God. And you may see how *Manasses* made *Israel* to sin by rearing up Altars for *Balaam*, for which cause the Lord carryed them into Captivity, 2 *Chron.* 33. 1. to 13. And see what work *Josiah* made with *Manasses'*, Images, Altars and Priests, 2 *King* 23. And how did *Ahab* and *Jezabel* with all her *Baal's* Priests and Prophets persecute the Lord's People, and what became of them in the end, see 1 *King* 21. and 2 *King* 9. And you may see what *Isaiah* saith, because of the wickedness of the Priests and others who had defiled the Earth, therefore the Lord would empty the Land of them, *Isa.* 24. to the 7. And also declares, how the Priests and Prophets had erred through Wine and strong Drink, for all Tables are full of Vomits and Filthiness, so that there is no place clean. *Isa.* 28. 7, 8.

And again, see how *Isaiah* cryeth against the Shepherds and Watch-men, and calls them greedy dumb Dogs that can never have enough, that fill themselves with Wine and strong Drink, they all look to their own way, every one for their gain, from their quarter; may not this practice be applied to many of the Shepherds, Priests and Watch-men now of our times, as in *Isa.* 56. 10, 11, 12. And see how *Jeremiah* testifies against the Priests, and how the Lord had made him a Brazen Wall and an Iron Pillar against the Priests, *&c. Jer.* 1. 18. 2. 8. And *Jeremiah* saith, every one is given to Covetousness, from the Prophet to the

Priest, every one deals falsly, *Jer.* 6. 13. And again *Jeremiah* saith, a wonderful horrible thing is committed in the Land, the Prophets prophesy falsly, and the Priests bear rule by their means, and my People love to have it so, *Jer.* 5. 30, 31. and 8. 10, 11.

And did not *Pashur* Son of *Immer* the high Priest, strike *Jeremiah* and put him in the Stocks, for declaring the Truth to him, *Jer.* 20. 1. And did not *Jeremiah* tell them, that both Prophets and Priests were prophane? read *Jer.* 23. 11. to the end. And did not the Priests and the Prophets and the Princes say, that *Jeremiah* was worthy to die, *Jer.* 26. 11. Here you may see the Priests had a hand in the persecution of *Jeremiah*.

And the Lord sent *Ezekiel* to cry against the Priests, and said, they had violated his Law, and prophaned his holy things, and put no difference betwixt the holy and prophane, *Ezek.* 22. 25, 26, 28. and how the Prophets, *&c.* were like roaring Lyons, and daubed with untempered Mortar, and how the Lord sent *Ezekiel* to prophesy against the Shepherds of *Israel*, and how he would gather his People from among them, and set one Shepherd over them to feed them, *Ezek.* 34. throughout, and was not that Christ?—And see how the Lord sent *Hosea* to cry against the Priest saying, I will also reject thee, and thou shalt be no Priest to me, seeing thou hast also forgot the Law of thy God. So like Priest, like People; and the Lord saith he will punish them for their Ways, *Hos.* 4. 6, 9. And have not the Priests now forgot the Law and Command of Christ, freely you have received, freely give, and to keep the Gospel without charge? And as a Troop of Robbers wait for a Man, so the Company of Priests murder in the way by consent, for they commit Lewdness, *Hos.* 6. 9. *Amaziah* the Priest of *Bethel*, sent to *Jeroboam* King of *Israel* and told him, that *Amos* the Prophet had conspired against him, and forbad him to prophesy any more in the King's Chappel, *Amos* 7. 10. to 17. So here the Priest was a lying Informer against *Amos* for speaking the Truth. And you may see how *Nehemiah* cries to the Lord, because the Priests had defiled the Priesthood, *Nehem.* 13. 29. And said, neither our Kings, Princes, Priests nor our Fathers had kept the Law of God, *Nehem.* 9. 32, 34. And *Micah* he said they built up *Sion* with Blood, and *Jerusalem* with Iniquity, the Heads thereof judge for Reward, the Priests thereof Teach for Hire, and the Prophets thereof Divine for Mony, and yet they

they would lean upon the Lord, and ſay, is not the Lord among us, and no evil can come upon us? Therefore ſhall *Sion* for your ſakes be plowed up like a Field, and *Jeruſalem* ſhall become on heaps, and ſo it was, and is not this the State of *Chriſtendom*? Have not the Hireling Prieſts and the Prophets in *Chriſtendom* brought it all on heaps?

And you may ſee what the Lord ſaith in *Malachy*, And now O ye Prieſts this Commandment is for you, if ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay to heart, to give Glory unto my Name, ſaith the Lord of Hoſts, I will even ſend a Curſe upon you, and I will curſe your Bleſſings; yea, I have curſed them already, becauſe ye do not lay it to heart: Behold, I will corrupt your Seed and ſpread Dung upon their Faces, even the Dung of your ſolemn Feaſts, *&c.* and ye ſhall know that I have ſent this Commandment unto you, ſaith the Lord of Hoſts, *Mal.* 2. 1, 2, 3, 4. May not the Prieſts of our times apply this Commandment to themſelves?

And the Lord ſaid, I will cut off the Remnant of *Baal* from *Jeruſalem*, and the Names of the *Chemarims* with the Prieſts, the Prophets are light and treacherous Perſons, their Prieſts have polluted the Sanctuary, they have done violence to the Law, *Zeph.* 1. 4. and 3. 4.

Here you may ſee all along in the Old Teſtament the wickedneſs of the Prieſts and Prophets, and how the Lord ſent his Holy Prophets to declare againſt them; and by their wicked lives and means, often the Jews went into Captivity, and the Lord's Prophets ſuffered.

And you may ſee how the chief Prieſts, Scribes and Elders conſulted to put Chriſt to death, *Mat.* 26. 34. And in *Mat.* 27. the chief Prieſts and Elders took counſel together againſt Jeſus to put him to death: And did not *Judas* that betrayed Chriſt ſell him for Thirty pieces of Silver unto the chief Prieſts? *&c. Mat.* 26. 14, 15. and 27. 1, 2. and *Mark* 14. 10.

And did not the chief Prieſts and Elders perſuade the Multitude that they ſhould ask of *Pilate Barrabas*, and crucifie Jeſus? and when they were crucifying Chriſt, did not the chief Prieſts mock him, *Mark* 15. 30, 31. And when they had crucified Chriſt, and watched his Sepulcher; and after Chriſt was riſen ſome of the Watch-men came into the City, and ſhewed unto the chief Prieſts all things that were done concerning Chriſt, and did not the Jews,

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chief Priests take counsel, and gave large Mony to the Soldiers, to say that his Disciples stole him away by Night as they slept, as in *Mat.* 28. And this saying and lye is commonly reported among the Jews to this day.

So here you may see how buse the Priests and chief Priests with their Company were to crucifie and murder the Just; and *Judas* that betrayed Christ, came with a great Multitude with Swords and Staves, from the chief Priests and Elders of the People, *Mat.* 26. 47. *Mark* 14. 43. Here you may see how eager the Priests were to destroy the Just, and gave Mony to tell lies.

And did not the High Priests and the Kindred of the High Priests, gather together against the Apostles for preaching Christ after he was risen? And did not they threaten them, and charge them not to speak at all in the Name of Jesus? *Act.* 4. 6, 18. And did not the High Priests rise against the Apostles with Indignation and put them in the Common Prison, but the Lord delivered them, as in *Acts* 5. 17, 18, 19. And when that the chief Priests took counsel together to put the Apostles to death, *Gamaliel* his counsel stopt them, as in *Acts* 5. 33. to the end.

And did not the High Priest examine *Stephen* in his counsel when he was put to death? *Acts* 6. 15. and 7. 1. And did not *Paul* say he had Authority from the chief Priests to shut up the Saints in Prison, and when that they were put to death he gave his voice against them, *Acts* 8. 3. and 26. 10. And did not *Ananias* the High Priest with the Elders and a certain Orator named *Tertullus*, inform the Governour *Felix* against *Paul*, and called *Paul* a pestilent Fellow and a Mover of Sedition, and sought to take away his life, as in *Acts* 24. to the end.——And how the High Priests and chief of the Jews informed *Festus* against *Paul*, and desired that he would send for him to *Jerusalem*, lying in wait by the way to kill him, *Acts* 25. 1, 2, 3. And after *Saul* was converted, the Jews took counsel together to kill him, in *Acts* 9. For he was going with his Packet of Letters from the High Priests to persecute the Christians at *Damascus*, and before he got thither, he was converted; and when he got to *Damascus*, he preacht Christ there, and they set watch at the Gates of *Damascus* to kill him, but he escaped their hands, *Acts* 9. 1. to the 31. And have not the Priests had the chiefest hand in imprisoning and persecuting Gods People since the Apostles days, both among Protestants and Papists; let the Scripture prove their Persecuting and Imprisoning

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and putting to death in the Prophets, Christ and the Apostles days: But since their days amongst Papists and Protestants, the Histories and the Goals, prove the Priests stirring up to the persecuting, imprisoning, banishing and putting to death of God's People; and have not the Jesuits and the Priests been like the Frogs, the unclean Spirits that have gone out of the mouth of the Beast and false Prophet? *Rev.* 16. 13, 14.

But have the Priests either papists or Protestants come so far as *Cain* or *Balaam*? for these heard God's voice, and *Balaam* went astray and forsook the right way and loved the wages of unrighteousness, but *Balaam's* Ass rebuked him for his Iniquity, and forbad the madness of him, 2 *Pet.* 2. 15, 16, *Jud.* 11.

And have not most of the People both among Protestants and Papists, been like dumb Asses, and their Priests like, or darker than *Balaam*, ride upon them, who say they never heard the voice of God nor Christ, and the People durst not reprove them for their Iniquity, Error and Madness, and their wages of Unrighteousness? Christ saith to his Ministers, freely you have received, freely give, and they laboured to keep the Gospel without charge. And now the Lord hath opened many Mouths, that they will not let *Balaam's* Priests and Prophets ride upon them, nor follow *Balaam's* error and way, nor give him the wages of Unrighteousness, though he loves it; though the *Balaams* be angry and cause them to be cast into Prison and their Goods spoyled, but declare against the covetous greedy *Balaams* and their wages of Unrighteousness, and follow Christ their way, who saith, freely you have received, freely give; and will not let *Baal's* Priests ride upon them any more, and the Lord hath made his People a Holy Royal Priesthood to offer up spiritual Sacrifices to God by Jesus Christ, 1 *Pet.* 2. 5. to the 10.

And how often have the Priests generally turned within this hundred years, to Queen *Mary*, and from Queen *Mary* to Queen *Elizabeth*, and to King *James*, and then to *Oliver* and *Rich. Cromwel*, and called them *Caleb* and *Joshua* that led them into the promised Land? but was it not into the Tythes, Offerings, Augmentations and glebe Lands? And then when King *Charles* II. came in, did not they most of them turn to Common Prayer, and persecute them that did not? And when King *James* came to the Throne, what did many of the Priests and Bishops do then, with their Passive Obedience and Non-Resistance, were not many of them

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them posting to *Rome* their Mother Church as they call it (let all the sober judge) and forsaking *Jerusalem* which is above, which is free, the Mother of all true Christians? *Gal.* 4. 26.

The 7th. of the 1st. Month, 16[illegible].

I Desire the Bishops and the Priests to look into their Bishopricks and Parishes, and see what Scabbed Flocks they have, Lying, Swearing, Cursing, Damning, and Whore-Houses and Play-Houses, to corrupt Youth and People, and they may see abundance of Theft, Murder and Whoredom, and how the Goals are filled up and down the Nation with Thieves and unclean Persons; that many are transported yearly out of *England*, *Scotland* and *Ireland*, into *America* of their Scabbed Flock, which the Bishops and Priests should watch over, look after, and cure, in all their Bishopricks and Parsonages, who are hired do take their Tythes, Easter-Reckonings, and Midsummer Dues to watch over them and look after them, and yet let them go astray; yea, they are so greedy, they take Tythes of them that are not of their Church, and spoyl the Goods of many, and cast them into the Goals, because they will not pay them, and cannot own them to be Ministers of the Gospel.

And let the Bishops and the Priests look into all the Sessions, Assizes and Courts, and see how the Justices of the Peace and the Judges are troubled with some of their Scabbed Flock, which they should oversee and watch over, and keep from the occasion of the Magistrates Sword. What Stewards are you, and how do you watch over them, that you may present their Souls to God to whom you must give an account as you pretend? And are not you ashamed both Bishops Priests and Teachers, to hear that so many of your Flock are brought before the Sessions and the Assizes, and how the Goals are filled with them, and how many are hanged yearly, and how many are transported beyond the Seas for their wickedness? And are not these Members of your Church, which you are to oversee and have the charge over? And pray consider are you not like them that do not profit the People at all, but seek your own Profit and your own Hire and Tythes, and your Gain from your Quarter? And therefore is it not time for you either to amend and look better to your Flocks, or give over your pretence? Read *Isa.* 56. to the end. *Jer.* 5. 29.

29, 30, 31. and 23. Ch. throughout. and *Micah* 3. 10, 11, 12. and *Ezek.* 13. Ch. throughout.

Now if you Prieſts, Biſhops and Shepherds had an outward Shepherd that you hired and let your Sheep be ſo Scabbed and Corrupted, and that they ſhould run ſo aſtray, and he not watch over them nor overſee them better, Would not you ſoon turn him away? I pray you look into your Biſhopricks and Pariſhes, and make Application upon your ſelves, as before.

The 18*th.* 1*ſt Month*, 16[illegible]. G. F.

THE Apoſtle *Paul* ſaith, after he became a Chriſtian and confeſſed Chriſt Jeſus, I exerciſed my ſelf to have always a good Conſcience, void of Offence toward God and toward Men, this he declared before *Felix* the Governour, when he was accuſed by the High Prieſts and Elders of the Jews, which ſaid *Paul* was a peſtilent Fellow, and a Mover of Sedition among all the Jews throughout the World, and a Ring-leader of the Sect of the *Nazarenes*, *Acts* 24. 15, 16.

Now here you may ſee when the Apoſtle *Paul* was turned from the Jews Temple Worſhips, and the Prieſts that took Tythes, for the Apoſtle *Paul* ſaid, when he was brought before King *Agrippa*, verily I thought with my ſelf, that I ought to do many things contrary to Jeſus of *Nazareth*, which things I alſo did in *Jeruſalem*; and many of the Saints I did ſhut up in Priſon, having received Authority from the chief Prieſts, and when they were put to death, I gave my voice againſt them, and I puniſhed them often in every Synagogue, and compelled them to Blaſphemy; and being exceeding mad againſt them, I perſecuted them even unto ſtrange Cities: Whereupon as I went to *Damaſcus*, with Authority and Commiſſion from the chief Prieſts, that if I found any of that way, *viz.* of them that believed in Chriſt, whether they were Men or Women, I might bring them bound to *Jeruſalem*. And as he was coming near unto *Damaſcus*, Chriſt Jeſus did convert him; and after a while he preacht Chriſt in *Damaſcus*, where he was going to perſecute, and confounded the Jews, and the Jews took counſel to kill him, as in *Acts* 9. 1. to the 28. and 26. 8, 9, 10, 11, 12. and 24. 16.

Now while *Paul* was Perſecuting and Impriſoning, and conſenting to the death of the Followers of Chriſt; and having his Pac-

ket of Letters, and his Authority and Commiſſion from the chief Prieſts, to go up and down and perſecute the Saints the Believers in Chriſt, from City to City; then he was exerciſing an evil Conſcience towards Chriſt and Men; for Chriſt ſaith, *Saul, Saul*, why perſecuteſt thou me? It is hard for thee to kick againſt the Pricks. So in this it is clear he was exerciſing an evil Conſcience, whilſt he was a Perſecutor; and the Jews, Prieſts and Elders alſo, which gave him Letters, Commiſſion and Authority, to perſecute Chriſt in his Members.—And ſo likewiſe, all the Proteſtant and Papiſt Prieſts, which call themſelves Chriſtians, that have, and do perſecute and impriſon People for their Faith and a good Conſcience, they have, and are perſecuting Chriſt in his Members, ſuch always have, and do exerciſe an evil Conſcience againſt Chriſt in his Members. For the Jews and chief Prieſts, would have Chriſt crucified without the Gates of *Jeruſalem*, and cryed, *Mat.* 17. 25. O let his Blood be upon them and their Children; in that they exerciſed an evil Conſcience towards Chriſt; and after Chriſt was riſen, the chief Prieſts and Elders, and *Saul*, impriſoned and perſecuted Chriſt in his Members; and ſo have the Papiſts, and the Proteſtant Prieſts, becauſe they do not conform. And therefore have they impriſoned and perſecuted to death and ſpoyled the Goods of many; in this they have exerciſed an evil Conſcience towards Chriſt and his People: For the Apoſtle, nor any other, did not, nor doth, exerciſe a good Conſcience towards God and Man, until that they were, and are converted to Chriſt Jeſus to follow him, and to forſake the Jewiſh Prieſts, and the Tythes, and Temple Worſhips, and all other outward Temple Worſhips, and Prieſts that take Tythes, and perſecute others that will not conform, and give them their Tythes, *&c.* For Chriſt ſaith, he came not to deſtroy Mens lives, but to ſave them; and ſaith, Love one another, and Love Enemies, and pray for them that perſecute you, and freely you have Received, freely Give; and they that keep the Commands of Chriſt and his Goſpel without charge, are always exerciſing a good Conſcience towards God, in Obeying, Serving and Worſhiping him, and a good Conſcience towards Men, in that which is Juſt, Righteous, Honeſt and True; to do unto all Men, as they would have others do unto them, according to the Royal Law of God. And ſo it is clear, that no perſecutor and ſpoyler of Peoples Goods, in all Ages from *Cain*, both in the days of the Prophets,

phets, Chriſt and the Apoſtles, and ſince to this day, did not have, nor can exerciſe a good Conſcience towards God and Man; for he that is born of the Fleſh, will perſecute him that is born of the Spirit; that perſecuting birth of the Fleſh, is not like to exerciſe a good Conſcience towards God or Man; he that is born of the Spirit, is born of God; for the birth of the Fleſh doth not do unto all Men, as it would have them do unto it; and is not like to exerciſe a good Conſcience, towards God, when it perſecutes his ſpiritual birth, though they that go in *Cain's*, *Corah's*, *Balaam's*, and *Jezabel's* way, in the Wolves and Sheeps cloathing, all theſe may make an outward profeſſion of Chriſtianity, and deny the Power thereof, but ſuch are to be turned away from. And is it like that they that go in theſe evil ways, ſhould exerciſe a good Conſcience towards God and Man? And alſo ſuch falſe Teachers that make Merchandize of People, that make the Goſpel chargeable, and ſuch Prieſts and Teachers that Divine for Mony, and preach for Hire, and bear Rule by their Means, and preach for handfuls of Barley, and pieces of Bread, and deceived the People; Such doings the Lord was againſt, and ſuch Shepherds which are called greedy dumb Dogs, which can never have enough, ſeeking for their gain from their quarter, *&c.* and looking after their own ways, and not after the Lords; ſuch, God's, Prophets, Chriſt and the Apoſtles teſtified againſt, and ſuch as theſe were not like to exerciſe a good Conſcience towards God and Man.

And when *Balak* ſent Meſſengers unto *Balaam*, to curſe the Children of *Iſrael*, and the Lord ſaid, Thou ſhalt not go with them, thou ſhalt not curſe them, for they are bleſſed; and *Balak* ſent other Meſſengers to *Balaam*, and ſaid, I will promote thee to great Honour, and will do whatever thou ſaiſt unto me; and after *Balaam* went, and God's Anger was kindled againſt him, becauſe he went, and the Angel of the Lord ſtood in the way as he rid upon his Aſs, and he ſmote his Aſs, and his Aſs fell down, and the Lord opened the mouth of the Aſs, and it reproved *Balaam*: And was not *Balaam* going to be promoted by *Balak*, and to receive his wages of unrighteouſneſs? And did not *Balaam* cauſe *Balak* to build Altars, and offer up Rams and Oxen? But for all *Balak's* and *Balaam's* Offerings, that he might curſe the Children of *Iſrael*, inſtead of that the Lord made him to bleſs them; ſo *Balaam* angred *Balak*, that he miſſed his honour, and his wages of unrighteouſ-

righteouſneſs, though he loved it, *Numb.* 22, 23, 24. Ch. 2 *Pet.* 2. 15, 16.

And do not our ſpiritual *Balaams* that ride upon the dumb Aſſes, ſo love the wages of unrighteouſneſs, that they would deſtroy all the Lord's People, if the Lord did not reſtrain them? But was not *Balaam* at laſt ſlain with the Sword? As in *Numb.* 31. 8. And will not all the ſpiritual *Balaams*, think you, that are erred from the Spirit of God, be ſlain by the Sword of the Spirit the Word of God, who love Honour and the wages of unrighteouſneſs? But the Lord is opening the mouths of his People (by his Spirit) which have been like dumb Aſſes, and they are throwing off *Balaam* and his error, honour, and wages; that makes the ſpiritual *Balaams* angry, that they are ready to kill them as old *Balaam* would have done his Aſs, but the Lord reſtrained them as he did him. Glory over all to the Lord forever; So that his Holy People can ſing *Hall-lujah* over them, and learn of Chriſt, who is meek and low in Heart, and in him they have found reſt, for their Souls, who ſaith, freely you have Received, freely Give.

The 19th. of the 1ſt Month, 16[illegible]. G. F.

Here People may ſee the bad Examples of Gehazi *and* Simon Magus, *are to be ſhun'd.*

Naaman Captain of the Hoſt of *Aſſyria*, he was a Leper, and had a Leproſie, and he came to *Eliſha* to be healed, and he bid him go and waſh in *Jordan* ſeven times and his Fleſh ſhould come again, and he ſhould be clean; and he went into *Jordan*, and waſht ſeven times and came again to *Eliſha* and was made well; and *Naaman* would have given *Eliſha* great Gifts, but *Eliſha* utterly denied them, and would receive none, but bid him go in Peace: But *Gehazi* the Servant of *Eliſha* went after *Naaman*, and ſaid,

My

My Maſter *Eliſha* hath ſent me, ſaying, Behold even now there be come to me from Mount *Ephraim* two young Men, of the Sons of the Prophets, give them I pray thee a Talent of Silver, and two Changes of Garments; and *Naaman* gave him two Talents of Silver, and two Changes of Garments; and *Gehazi Eliſha*'s Servant took them to himſelf and beſtowed them in the Houſe, and came to *Eliſha*; and *Eliſha* askt him whence he came? and he ſaid, his Servant went no where; but *Eliſha* ſaid unto him, went not thy heart with thee when the Man turned again in his Chariot to meet thee? and *Eliſha* ſaid to *Gehazi*, the Leproſie of *Naaman* ſhall cleave unto thee, and unto thy Seed forever; and he went from *Eliſha* a Leper, as you may ſee in 2 *King* 5. Ch. throughout.

And are not all the covetous Teachers in the World of the Seed of *Gehazi*? yea, are not many of them grown worſe, than he who will take Mony and the Cloaths from ſuch that do not own them, and if they will not give them means or rewards, they will caſt them in Priſon, and ſpoyl their Goods. Is not this covetous Leproſie ſeen upon them, who are of the Seed and Spirit of *Gehazi*? For he went with a lie in his Mouth to *Naaman* (as though *Eliſha* had ſent him, but he did not) who gave him two Talents of Silver, and two Changes of Garments, which *Eliſha* would not receive from him. Here *Eliſha* freely what he had received of God, freely gave it again, according to Chriſt's Doctrin, though *Gehazi* abuſed *Eliſha* in going unto *Naaman* in his name, but he that took the reward for doing nothing, he had the Leproſie with it; and is not this the condition of all the covetous Teachers, that be of the Spirit and Seed of *Gehazi*, or rather worſe, that will take Mony and Rewards by force, of them they do nothing for? And ſuch are not of the Spirit and Seed of Chriſt, who ſaith, freely you have received, freely give. And are not theſe things written for our Admoniſhment, and that we ſhould not follow the examples of that covetous Seed and Spirit, but follow Chriſt, and obey his Command?

And what think you of *Simon Magus* who believed and was baptized? And when he ſaw that through laying on the Hands of the Apoſtles, the Holy Ghoſt was given; this *Simon Magus* offered the Apoſtles Mony, ſaying, give me alſo this Power, that on whomſoever I lay hands, they may alſo receive the Holy Ghoſt; but *Peter* ſaid unto him, thy Mony periſh with thee, becauſe thou haſt thought that the Gift of God may be purchaſed with Mony,

thou

thou haſt neither part nor lot in this matter, for thy heart is not right in the ſight of God; Repent therefore of this thy wickedneſs, and pray God if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee, for I perceive thou art in the Gall of Bitterneſs, and in the bond of Iniquity, *Acts* 8. 17 to 24.

Now here it is clear that all the Teachers in Chriſtendom, that think the Gift of God can be purchaſed with Mony, their hearts are wrong, and they are in the Gall of Bitterneſs and the Bond of Iniquity, and their Mony will periſh with them, and they have neither lot nor part in the Gift of God; though they may pretend themſelves to be Believers, and to be baptized, they know not the baptiſm of the Holy Ghoſt. All the Teachers in Chriſtendom may apply *Simon Magus*'s condition to themſelves, that have gotten their natural Tongues, Arts and Sciences, and old Authors, and Hiſtories, and make People believe that they have the Gift of God, and ſo they are called to the Miniſtry, when they have neither part nor lot in it, but do daily ſhew forth the Gall of Bitterneſs, and the bond of Iniquity, to People that will not give them Means for their Gift which they ſell to People; but Chriſt who gives Gifts to his People ſaith, freely you have received, freely give.

Gooſes the 2*d. Month*, 1690. G. F.

THE Prieſts and Profeſſors of all ſorts uſed to bring this Scripture, the ſaying of Chriſt, That the Scribes or Phariſees ſit in *Moſes* Seat or Chair, all therefore whatſoever they bid you obſerve, that obſerve and do; but do not ye after their works, for they ſay and do not, for they bind heavy Burdens and grievous to be born, and lay them on Mens Shoulders, but will not move them with one of their Fingers, but all their works they do for to be ſeen of Men, *&c.* They love the uppermoſt Rooms at Feaſts, and the chief Seats at Synagogues, and greeting in the Markets, and to be called of Men Rabbi, and Maſter. And Chriſt pronounces eight Woes againſt them, and calls them Hypocrites, and Fools, and blind Guides, who made clean the outſides of the Cup, and of the Platter, but within full of Extortion and Exceſs; and called them whited Sepulchres, which indeed appeared Beautiful outwardly, but within full of dead Mens Bones, and of all uncleaneſs; who alſo outwardly appeared

Righteous

Righteous unto Men, but within ye are full of Hypocrſie and Iniquity; ye Serpents, ye Generation of Vipers, how can you eſcape the Damnation of Hell? *Mat.* 23. to the end. Theſe are very ſuitable Scriptures for the Prieſts and Profeſſors, to apply to themſelves.

Now the Prieſts and Profeſſors ſay, though they be as bad as Scribes and Phariſees, they muſt do as they ſay, and not as they do. And another Scripture the Prieſts and Profeſſours bring, how Chriſt ſaid that the Scribes and Phariſees paid Tythes of Mint, Anis and Cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the Law, Judgment Mercy and Faith, *Mat.* 23. 23, 24. theſe ought ye to have done, and not to leave the others undone, ye blind Guides which ſtrain at a Gnat and Swallow a Cammel.

Now the Jews were to hear theſe Scribes and Phariſees, which writ the Law and read the Law, ſo they were to do the Law which Chriſt came to fulfil, and they were to pay their Tythes of Mint, Anis and Cummin, which were commanded by Law, and not to neglect Judgment, Mercy and Faith, thoſe weighter matters of the Law; for Tythes, Offerings and Prieſts, were commanded and held up by the Law, and this Law ſerved till the Seed Chriſt came, as in *Gal.* 3. 19. And when Chriſt was come not to break the Law but to fulfil it, and when he was offered up as a Sacrifice once for all, he changed the Prieſthood, and changed the Law, and diſannulled the Commandment, that gave them Tythes, and aboliſhed the Prieſthood with its daily Sacrifice and Offerings, with the Sacrifice of himſelf once for them all; when Chriſt had healed or cleanſed any, before he was offered up, he bid them go to the Prieſts, and offer a Sacrifice for their cleanſing, but when Chriſt by one offering had perfected forever them that are ſanctified, as in *Heb.* 10. 14. Chriſt ended all the offerings, by offering up himſelf, and hath aboliſhed the Prieſthood and thrown down *Moſes* Chair or Seat, and is the end of the Law for Righteouſneſs ſake, to every one that believes. And when Chriſt ſent forth his Diſciples, into all Nations to preach the Goſpel, after he was riſen, and gave them Power, he did not bid them take Tythes of Mint, Anis and Cummin, *&c.* But ſaid, freely you have received, freely give: And when the Apoſtles had either healed any Sick, or cleanſed any Lepers, they did not bid them go to the Prieſts and offer a Sacrifice for their cleanſing as Chriſt had done, in the days of his Fleſh, but

that

that was the Law which Christ bid them do and observe before he was offered up, and Christ is the end of the Law for Righteousness sake to every one that believes, and the Apostle saith after Christ was offered up, that no Flesh is justified by the Deeds of the Law; for the Apostles knew that Christ by the offering up of himself, had ended and abolished the Jewish Priesthood and their Offerings, and ended the daily Sacrifices.

And now for the Priests and Professors to bring this Scripture, though their Priests be as bad as whited Walls, and painted Sepulchres, and Vipers, and Serpents, and in all those Evils that the Scribes and Pharisees were in: Yet whatever they bid us do, that we must do and observe, but not do as they do, for they say and do not; But I say, Christ saith, we must not follow the inward ravening Wolves, and the false Prophets that come in Sheeps Clothing, for Christ bids beware of them, *Matt.* 7. 15. And the Apostle saith, that he that hath the Form of Godliness, but denies the Power thereof, from such turn away, 2 *Tim.* 3. 5.

Aut now if you say that *Paul* said some Preach'd Christ even of Envy and Strife, *&c.* Supposing to add Afflictions to my Bonds, *&c.* And the Apostle said, whether in pretence or truth Christ is preach'd, I therein do rejoyce, yea, and I will rejoyce, *Phil.* 1. 15, 16, 17, 18.

Bnd now you that bring the Scripture for Men that be in Srife and Envy, you are very dark concerning the Times the Apostle speaks of; for you must consider how all were hated that professed the Name of Christ, and how the Jews said to *Paul* at *Rome* concerning this Sect, we know that every where it is spoken against, namely them that believe in Christ, *Acts* 28. 22.

And so the Apostle did rejoyce, if envious contentious Men, and Men of Strife did preach Christ; so that his Name was spread abroad at that Time: But when Christ's Name was spread abroad, and many came into a Form of Godliness, but denying the Power thereof; the Apostle bids the Church of Christ turn away from such, as in 2 *Tim.* 3. 5. And the Apostle *Paul* saith, Brethren be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so, as ye have us for an Ensample; for many walk of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the Enemies of the Cross of Christ, whose End is Destruction, whose God is their Belly, and whose Glory is in their Shame, who mind Earthly things; and let the Teachers in Christendom apply these

Scrip-

Scriptures to themſelves who mind Earthly things, *Phil.* 3. 17, 18, 19. So here you may ſee the Apoſtle doth not rejoyce at ſuch as theſe, but weeps; And alſo you may ſee, *James*, *Peter*, *Jude*, *John* in their Epiſtles, and *John* in his Revelations, reproved ſuch as forſook Chriſt the Right way, and did not walk in it, or that erred from the Faith; And the Apoſtle ſaith, there are many unruly vain Talkers and Deceivers, *&c.* whoſe Mouth muſt be ſtopt, teaching things that they ought not, for Lucres ſake, *Tit.* 1. 10. And ſo the Apoſtle doth not rejoyce at ſuch as preach Chriſt out of Envy and Strife, which added Afflictions to his Bonds, but ſuch that had the Form of Godlineſs, denying the Power thereof, they were to turn away from.

The 8th. of the 1ſt. Month, 168[illegible]. G. F.

ALL you Prieſts, Teachers and Profeſſours, that mock and ſcoff at the Motions and Movings of the Spirit of God in his People; Yea, your very Children as well as your ſelves will mock and ſcoff, and ſay the Spirit moves you, which doth demonſtrate that you are all erred from the Spirit of God, and to the Motions and Movings of it you have ſtopt your Ears, and cloſed your Eyes, and ſo know not the Things of God, for no Man knows the things of God but by the Spirit of God; and ſo you that ſcoff and mock at the Movings of the Spirit of God, I ſay unto you, you had never had the Scriptures, neither Prieſts, Teachers, nor Profeſſours, if the Spirit of God had not moved the Holy Men to give them forth, which by your own Wills and private Interpretations you make a Trade of, Yea, one of the greateſt Merchandiſe and Trades in Chriſtendom, to get Mony by the Scriptures, which Holy Men of God ſpake forth, as they were moved by the Holy Ghoſt, and they came not by the Will of Man, neither are they of any private Interpretation: And now you that mock and ſcoff at the Motions of the Holy Ghoſt or Spirit, and yet make Merchandiſe and Trade of the Scriptures that Holy Men of God ſpake forth as they were moved by the Holy Ghoſt as before, and in this you do ſhew forth your Error and Apoſtacy from the Holy Spirit in them that gave forth the Scriptures as they were moved by the Holy Ghoſt; and ſo you are very unlike to be led into all Truth by the Holy Ghoſt, or to pray or have any Fellowſhip in the Holy Ghoſt that deny it, and

ſay you have it not, as the Church of Chriſt, and the Apoſtles had it in their days.

Now you Biſhops, Prieſts, Profeſſors and others, that call your ſelves Proteſtants, and the Reformed Church, I do intreat you to conſider theſe things as follow, by which we have ſuffered Impriſonments, and ſpoyling of our Goods, who are the true Proteſtants and Reformed Church.

We have greatly ſuffered both Impriſonments and the ſpoyling of our Goods, becauſe we could not obſerve your Holy-days as you call them, and for opening of our Shops we have been much aſſaulted by the rude Multitudes, and ſometimes our Goods have been ſpoyled, and we caſt into Priſon; Eſpecially, becauſe we could not obſerve that you call Chriſtmas-day; Now was not Chriſtmas-day ſet up by the Papiſts, and alſo your Candlemaſs, and Michaelmaſs, and Childermaſs, and Lambſmaſs, were not all theſe Maſſes ſet up by the Papiſts, and not by Chriſt, and his Apoſtles, and are they not their Reliques of Popery? And did the Apoſtles command that the Chriſtians ſhould obſerve *Eaſter*, the Jews Paſſover, or Whitſontide, the Jews Penticoſt in the Goſpel-day, in the new Covenant and Teſtament?

And again, did Chriſt and the Apoſtles command the Chriſtians to obſerve Circumciſion, and the Epiphany, and the Purification of *Mary*, St. *Matthew*'s-day, Aſh-wedneſday, the Annunciation, Palm-Sunday, Good-Friday, *Mark* the Evangeliſt's day, *Philip* and *Jacob*'s-day, and Holy-Thurſday, St. *Barnabas*, Trinity Sunday, *Jhon* Baptiſt's day, *Peter* and *Jame*'s day, *Bartholomew*'s day, *Simon* and *Jude*'s day, All-Saints day, *Andrew*'s day, *Thomas*'s day, *Steven*'s day, *John* the Evangeliſt's day, and Innocent's day, and *Paul*'s day of his Converſion, and that they ſhould obſerve all theſe Days in their ſeveral Months and Years; where did ever Chriſt and the Apoſtles give the Church command to obſerve theſe Days, Times, Months and Years? For the Apoſtle *Paul* ſaith, I have not ſhunned to declare unto you all the Counſel of God, *Acts* 20. 27.

Now, where did the Apoſtle in all the Council of God declare to the Church of Chriſt, that they ſhould obſerve theſe days before mentioned in their Times, Months and Years? Nay, was not the Apoſtle *Paul* ſo far from bidding the Church of Chriſt obſerve Chriſt's day, or any of the Apoſtles, or his own, *&c.* When he ſaid, O ye fooliſh *Galatians*, who hath bewitched you, that

that ye ſhould not obey the Truth, &c. And alſo he ſaith, are ye ſo fooliſh having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the Fleſh? but now after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn you again to the weak and beggerly Elements or Rudiments, whereunto ye deſire again to be brought into Bondage? ye obſerve Days and Months, and Times and Years; the Apoſtle ſaid, I am afraid of you, leſt I have beſtowed upon you labour in vain, *Gal.* 3. 1, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11.

Now let all Proteſtants, and Profeſſors of the Reformed Churches conſider theſe things, and the Apoſtles Labour, and theſe fooliſh *Galatians*, that went into theſe weak Elements and Rudiments that brought them into Bondage, that had begun in the Spirit, and thought to have been made perfect in the Fleſh, and therefore pray conſider, you that ſet up theſe days, for People to obſerve.

And do not you ſay to your People in your Steeple-houſes, Six days thou ſhalt labour, and do all that thou haſt to do, *&c.* And then do not you ſtand up in the ſame Steeple-houſes, and bid your Holy Days, and Maſs-days; and have your Paritors, and other Officers to trouble People for opening their Shops on many of theſe days, which you have no Command from God, nor Chriſt, nor his Apoſtles, to keep or obſerve. But all you Proteſtants, conſider, is not God, and Chriſt, and his Truth, and Name more diſhonoured and blaſphemed upon your Holy Days, as you call them; than any other day in the Week, when all is let looſe to Sports and Plays, and all manner of vain Paſtimes, as they call it, and Drunkenneſs, Looſeneſs, Lightneſs, Wantonneſs, Oaths and Prophaneneſs, out of the very Bounds of Sobriety, Modeſty and Chriſtian Moderation, which ſhould be ſhewed forth by all the true Chriſtians; And they that turned again to the weak Elements and Rudiments, whereunto they were brought into Bondage in their obſerving Days, Months, Times and Years, this was not a Chriſtian Goſpel-practice in the new Covenant; but a Goſpel and Chriſtian Teſtimony and Judgment, againſt them that did do ſo: And the Apoſtle ſaith, ſtand faſt therefore in your Liberty wherewith Chriſt hath made you free, and be not intangled again with the Yoke of Bondage, as ſome of the *Galatians* were alſo going back into the Jews Circumciſion, beſides their obſerving of Days, Times, Months and Years; and ſo it could not be the Spirit of God that led into ſuch things. For the Apoſtle calls them Fools, and ſaith, who hath bewitched you, that

ye begun in the Spirit, and think to be made perfect in the Flesh. And therefore I desire you in the Spirit of Meekness, that you may reform, and be reformed out of these weak Elements and Rudiments, which brought People into Bondage in the Apostles Days; And therefore they must needs bring People into Bondage now, for which you have no Command from Christ, nor his Apostles, but their Testimony against them; and therefore I desire, you may be reformed by the Spirit of God into the Primitive Reformation, the Apostles Testimony, Practice and Judgment, and to stand fast in the Liberty, where Christ makes free out of Bondage, and not to force others to that which brings into Bondage.

And ye know the great Observation on May-day, a great deal of Vanity and Looseness is acted upon that day; and was not the ground of observing May-day, and the May-Poles from *Flora* a Strumpet at *Rome*? is not this a heathenish Custom, and not fit to be practised amongst them that profess the Gospel-day of Christ, and his new Covenant, and the true Christians that are followers of Christ? And seeing you have no such Command from Christ, nor his Apostles to follow any such vain Custom and Tradition, like your Fore-fathers the Heathen, but not the Fore-fathers the Apostles, and Church of Christ in the Primitive Times.

And did ever the Jews in the Old Testament observe *Adam* and *Eves* days, or *Noah*'s day, who by Faith built the Ark, who was a just Man and perfect in his Generation, and walked with God, or *Enoch*'s day who walked with God, *Gen.* 5. 22. & 6. 9.

And did ever the Jews observe *Abraham*'s day, or *Isaac*'s, or *Jacob*'s, or *Moses*'s, or *Aaron*'s, or *Joshua*'s, or any of the Prophets of God's days? though *Abraham* saw the day of Christ and rejoyced, yet he did not say it was an outward day, that he saw and observed, nor call it Christmass-day, which you have from the Pope, and not from *Abraham*, Christ nor his Apostles. As dark and as blind as the Jews were, yet we do not hear that they observed any of the days before mentioned in the Old Testament: But *Herod* who observed his Birth-day, and made a Feast to his Lords and High Captains, *&c.* and when the Daughter of *Herodias* came in, and daunced, and pleased *Herod*, that he said, he would give her whatsoever she would ask, and her Mother counselled her to ask *John* Baptist's head, which was given her in a Charger, and here is thelt fruits of their dauncing, and their bloody

bloody Feaſt to ſlay the Juſt, though we do not hear that *Herod* nor any, either in the Old or New Teſtament, had any command either from God or Chriſt ſo do. Neither have the Chriſtians from Chriſt or his Apoſtles to obſerve their Days, Birth-Days, or others; for the Apoſtle ſaid to the Galatians that were turned again to the weak Elements and Rudiments, whereunto they have been brought into Bondage, who obſerved Days and Months, and Times and Years, they did not obey the Truth in that, before whoſe Eyes Jeſus Chriſt hath been evidently ſet forth, and crucified amongſt them; and do not they crucifie Chriſt among them now, that obſerve Days, Months, Times and Years? And do not they perſecute and ſpoyl the Goods of them that obey the Truth, and Impriſon them that cannot obſerve their Days, Times, Months and Years? Look over all Chriſtendom I pray, both Proteſtants and Papiſts, and ſee if that Birth born of the Fleſh, hath not been perſecuting the Birth born of the Spirit, *Gal.* 4 29.

And where did ever Chriſt or the Apoſtles command *Lent* to be kept and *Shrove-Tueſday*, and many more Holy-Days as you call them, that might be mentioned? And is not there a great deal of Rudeneſs and Wickedneſs committed on that day you call *Shrove-Tueſday*, throughout the Land? And is it not time for you to reform from theſe Heatheniſh and Popiſh Cuſtoms, by the Spirit of Sobriety and Modeſty, and that your Moderation may appear, that you are Chriſtians in Nature and Deed? And I pray be not offended with ſuch true Chriſtians, as cannot in Conſcience obſerve ſuch things. And had you not the Names that you gave unto moſt of your Days and Months, from the Heathen and Papiſts, and not from the Prophets, Chriſt, nor his Apoſtles? And were not the old Pagan *Saxons* in their Idolatry, the firſt that brought in the Names of the Days after this manner, and theſe called Chriſtians have retained them to this day.

The firſt day of the Week they Worſhiped the Idol of the Sun, from whence came Sunday. The ſecond day of the Week they Worſhiped the Moon, from whence came Moonday, or Monday. The third day they Worſhiped the Idol of the Planets, which they called *Tuiſco*, from whence came Tueſday. And from the Idol *Woden* came Wedneſday. And from the Idol *Thor*, came Thurſday. And from the Idol *Friga*, came Friday. And from the Idol *Seater*, came Saturday. And the Heathen called *Mars* the God of Battle, and from thence they called the firſt Month

Month *Mareh*. And *Venus* they called the Goddeſs of Love and Beauty, and from thence they called the ſecond Month *April*. And *Maia* a Heathen Goddeſs called *Flora*, *Flora* and *Gloris* were called the Goddeſſes of Flowers; and unto *Maia* the Heathen Idolators uſed to Sacrifice, from thence was the third Month called *May*, and upon the firſt day of the ſame Month, they uſed to keep *Floralia*, Feaſts to the Goddeſſes of the Flowers, (*viz.*) *Flora* and *Gloris*, and *Flora* was a Strumpet in *Rome*, that uſed on the firſt day of that Month, to ſet up a May-Pole before her door, to entice her Lovers, from whence came May-Poles to be firſt obſerved. And from the Heathen Goddeſs *Juno*, is the fourth Month called *June*. And in Honour to *Julius Caſar* a Roman Emperor, is the fifth Month called *July*. And the ſixth Month took its Name *Auguſt*, in Honour of *Auguſtus Caſar*. And *September*, *October*, *November*, and *December*, are called from the Latines. And one *Janus* a King of *Italy*, was for his Wiſdom pictur'd with two Faces, whom they Honoured as a God, and from this name *Janus*, was the eleventh Month called *January*. And *Saturnus*, *Pluto*, *Februs*, were called the Gods of Hell, whom the Heathen ſaid had the Rule of the evil Spirits there, and from *Pluto Febris* was the twelfth Month called *February*. And now are not all theſe contrary to the Holy Scriptures of Truth, and the Command of the Lord? Who ſaith, in all things that I have ſaid unto you be circumſpect, and make no mention of the Names of other Gods, neither let them be heard out of your Mouths, *Exod.* 23. 13. And further the Lord ſaid, They ſhall overthrow their Altars, namely, the Heathen, and break their Pillars, and burn their Groves with Fire, and you ſhall hew down their Graven Images of their Gods, and deſtroy the Name of them out of that Place; theſe are the Statutes and Judgments which ye ſhall obſerve to do in the Land, which the Lord God of thy Fathers gives thee to poſſeſs all the days that ye live upon the Earth, *Deut.* 12. 1, 2, 3.

And now conſider all you that profeſs Chriſtianity, both Papiſts and Proteſtants, do ye not make mention of the names of the Heathen Gods, and are they not heard out of your Mouths as before? Nay are they not put in your Almanacks, that your very Children may make mention of the Heathen Gods, and to be heard out of their Mouths? Alſo is not this contrary to the Law and Command of God to the Jews? And therefore it ſhould be below them, that profeſs the Goſpel in the New Covenant, when

when the Apoſtle ſaith, every one that names the Name of Jeſus, let them depart from Iniquity; and the Jews were to teach their Children, to obſerve and do the Law of God in the Old Teſtament; much more ſhould the Chriſtians teach their Children Virtue, and the Law of Love, Life and Faith, in the New Teſtament.

And we intreat you to conſider, we have ſuffered many Reproaches, and ſometimes Blows, and had many evil Names given to us, and called us ill bred Clowns and unmannerly, to make us odious in the ſight of Men, becauſe we would not give the Title of Rabbi, Doctors, and Maſter to the Prieſts; which is againſt the command of Chriſt, who ſaid to his Diſciples, Miniſters and Teachers that he ſent forth, be ye not called of Men Rabbi, Rabbi, or Maſter, for one is your Maſter even Chriſt, and ye are all Brethren, *Mat.* 23. 7. 8.

Now we do not read that either the Twelve or Seventy Diſciples, did diſobey the Command of Chriſt, for where do you read in the New Teſtament of thoſe Titles, Mr. *Matthew*, Mr. *Mark*, Mr. *Luke*, or Mr. *John*, or any other of the Apoſtles? Or where do you read that any of the Apoſtles, when they writ one to another, or the Church to them, that they called one another Maſters? for *James* was far off from Titleing himſelf Maſter, for *James* ſaith, My Brethren be not many Maſters, knowing that we ſhall receive the greater Condemnation: So he calleth them Brethren, *Jam.* 1. 1. and not Maſters. And Chriſt did not teach his Miniſters and Diſciples Clowniſhneſs and Unmannerlineſs, when he ſaid, be ye not called of Men Maſters, for one is your Maſter even Chriſt, and ye are all Brethren.

And as for all your Titles of Batchelor of Arts, Maſter of Arts, and your ſeveral ſorts of Garments, as Surplices, Lawn-Sleeves, Hoods, Caps, Girdles, *&c.* have you any example for theſe things from Chriſt and his Apoſtles? Or a Command from Chriſt and his Apoſtles, for your practice in holding up theſe things, With your Rails, Altars, Organs and Croſſes? Or had you them from the Papiſts, ſeeing that we find no Command, nor Example in the New Teſtament for them in the Apoſtles days? And therefore it is good to be reformed, out of all the Relicks of Heatheniſm and Popery, and come to the Croſs of Chriſt, the Power of God and the fine Linnen, the Righteouſneſs of Chriſt.

And we have had many hard Thoughts upon us, and hard words

words alſo, becauſe we cannot give the Title of Lord Biſhops, and call them Gracious Lords: And we never read in the Scriptures, when the Apoſtles writ to the Biſhops and Elders, and to *Timothy* and *Titus* which were Biſhops, that they gave them the Titles of Lords or Gracious Lords: And Chriſt ſaid unto his Diciples, the Gentiles exerciſe Lordſhip and Authority over them, and are called Gracious Lords or Benefactors; but ye ſhall not be ſo, but he that is greateſt among you, let him be as the younger, and he that is chief, as he that doth ſerve, *Luke* 22. 25, 26.

And here you may ſee that Chriſt never ſet up the Title of Lord in his Church, among his Diſciples, but he told them, he had appointed them a Kingdom, *&c.* which was above the Glory of the World and their Titles. And *Peter* writes to the Elders, and exhorts them, who ſaid, I am alſo an Elder; *&c.* and bids the Elders feed the Flock of God, which is among you, not by Conſtraint, but Willingly; not for filthy Lucre, but of a ready Mind; neither as being Lords over God's Heritage, but as being Examples to the Flock; and when the chief Shepherd ſhall appear, you may receive a Crown of Glory, that fadeth not away, 1 *Pet.* 5. 1, 2, 3, 4.

Now here it may bee ſeen that *Peter* who was an Elder, he doth not call himſelf Lord or Maſter, nor them Lords or Maſters; but they were to be examples to the Flock, and to mind Chriſt their chief Shepherd, and to receive the Crown of Glory of Chriſt when he ſhould appear.

And the Pope that ſaith he ſits in *Peter's* Chair, he is far of *Peter's* Doctrin, who takes the Title of Lord, and he is not like to receive a Crown of Glory of Chriſt the chief Shepherd, who hath got an outward Worldly Triple Crown upon his Head already, of the Glory of the World that will fade away, which we never read in the Scriptures, that *Peter* had neither called himſelf Lord or Maſter, nor gave thoſe Titles to other Elders though he was an Elder, but take away the filthy Lucre from either the Pope, Biſhops and Prieſts, and their Titles of Lords, *&c.* and you ſhall have but a few Overſeers; and therefore we do intreat you that call your ſelves Proteſtants, to reform from all theſe Titles which you have from the Pope and Papiſts, and not from Chriſt and his Apoſtles.

And another thing the Teachers and Profeſſors have taken offence againſt us, becauſe we uſe the ſingle Language, Thou to One

One, and You to Many, which is according to their own Teaching Books, Accidence and Grammar, and the Tranſlation of the Bible, which they are taught at School, and was the practice of the Holy Men of God, as may be ſeen in the Scriptures of Truth they familiarly uſed Thou to One, and You to Many. And therefore we thought it very ſtrange, that they would neither ſuffer us to practiſe what they taught us in Grammar, Accidence, and Bible, nor practice it themſelves; and for the practice of theirs, of ſaying You to One, and cannot endure to have Thee and Thou ſaid to them, they neither have it from their Accidence, Grammar nor Bible, then is it not from the Pope, and their own Pride? And I deſire the Lord open your Eyes, and give you an underſtanding and a tender Heart, who profeſs your ſelves Proteſtants, that with the Spiritual Armour and Weapons, you may ſubdue Atheiſm, Heatheniſm, and the Relicks of Popery, and not deny the Popiſh Religion in words, and hold up ſome of the Relicks, and that all that profeſs themſelves Miniſters may obey Chriſt's Command, freely you have received freely give, and to covet no Man's Gold, Silver nor Apparel, but keep the Goſpel without Charge, as the Apoſtles did: For Tythes and Offerings are not Chriſt's Goſpel-Miniſters Maintenance; for were ever Tythes or Offerings paid in *England* by any Chriſtians, till after *Auſtin* the Monk came in? And ſo I deſire you may be reformed by the Spirit of Chriſt, into the ſame practice, and Spirit, and Power, the Church of Chriſt were in, in the Apoſtles days, from him who hath a tender Conſcience toward God, and hath been a great Sufferer for Chriſt, and the true Reformation, and deſires your Reformation, Good and Proſperity here, and your Eternal Happineſs hereafter.

Gooſe the 11th Month, 1689 G. F.

THE Apoſtle ſaith to the Galatians, for when we were Children, we were in Bondage under the Elements of the World, but now after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God, how turn ye back again to the weak and beggerly Elements, whereunto ye deſired again to be brought into Bondage? Ye obſerve Days, Months, Times and Years; I am afraid of you leſt I have beſtowed upon you Labour in vain, *Gal.* 4. 3, 9, 10, 11.

Now here you may ſee obſerving of the Jewiſh Days, Months, Times and Years, which they were commanded of God; the Apoſtle ſaith, when they were Children, they were in Bondage under; and the Apoſtle calls them weak beggerly Elements of the World, that ſome Chriſtians were turned back to, which formerly they had been under; and therefore how is Chriſtendom ſince the Apoſtles days, turned back into theſe weak beggerly Elements of the World, in obſerving Days, Times, Months, *&c.* which God never commanded? And not only in Bondage themſelves by obſerving of them, but bring others into Bondage, and Impriſon and Perſecute ſuch that will not obſerve them; and ſhutting up their Shops; and hath not the Apoſtle beſtowed all his labour in vain upon ſuch? And is not God and Chriſt more diſhonoured upon thoſe Times and Days which they call Holy-Days, than any other Times and Days in the Week? For do not you ſee there is more Vanity, Wickedneſs, Looſneſs, Profaneneſs and taking God's and Chriſt's name in vain, upon thoſe you call Holy-Days, which the Apoſtle calls beggarly Elements, than any other Days of the Week? You that be in Bondage under theſe weak beggerly Elements of the World, Are not you ſpoyled through Philoſophy and vain Deceit, after the Traditions of Men, after the Rudiments or Elements of the World, and not after Chriſt? And did not the Apoſtle warn the Church of Chriſt of ſuch things? And ſaid, if you be dead with Chriſt from the Rudiments or Elements of the World; why as though living in the World, are ye ſubject to Ordinances? (*viz.* of the World.) And the Apoſtle ſaith, Touch not, Taſte not, Handle not; which all are to periſh with the uſing after the Commandments and Doctrins of Men; ſo the Church of Chriſt, were not to Touch, Taſte nor Handle the Rudiments, Elements, Traditions, Ordinances, Commandments nor Doctrins of the World: And therefore they ſuffered becauſe they would not taſte them, nor handle them; but they that are not dead with Chriſt, do not hold him their Head, they are not like, but in the World ſet up many Heads, and Taſte, Touch and Handle the Traditions, Rudiments, Elements, Ordinances, Commandments and Doctrins of the World, commanded by worldly Men, which are not after Chriſt; and ſuch are in Bondage under them, *Col.* 2. the Chap. throughout. And ſuch perſecute them that will not obſerve their Days and Rudiments, *&c.* but ſee the day of Chriſt and obſerve it.

And

And the Apoſtle ſaid, I am ſold under Sin, in his Unconverted Eſtate, *Rom.* 7. 14. and to be carnally minded is Death, becauſe the carnal mind is enmity with God, It is not ſubject to the Law of God neither indeed can it be, *Rom.* 8. 6, 7. And again the Apoſtle ſaith, God hath concluded all both Jews and Gentiles in unbelief, that he might have Mercy upon all, *Rom.* 11. 22. And again he ſaith all are concluded under ſin that the promiſe by the Faith of Jeſus Chriſt might be given to them that believed, *Gal.* 3. 22.

How that death paſt over all Men, and all died in *Adam*; this is the unconverted Eſtate in the Death, ſold and concluded under Sin and Unbelief, then Sin and Death is over the unconverted. Now Chriſt ſhedding his Blood, and taſting death for every Man that is dead in Sins and Treſpaſſes, and ſo died for their ſins, and is a Propitiation for the ſins of the whole World, and is a quickening Spirit, and is the one Mediator betwixt God and Man, who gave himſelf a Ranſome for all, and would have all to be ſaved, and come to the knowledge of the Truth, that will make them free, that they might live in Chriſt, and follow him that makes an end of Sin, and finiſheth Tranſgreſſion, and brings in everlaſting Righteouſneſs; who died for their Sins, and deſtroys the Devil and his Works, and bruiſes the Serpent's Head, who brought in Sin, and through Death deſtroys Death and the Devil, the Power of Death, and ſo is riſen for their Juſtification, and all that he hath quickened and made alive by Chriſt. As the Apoſtle ſaith, he hath raiſed us up together, and made us to ſit together in the Heavenly places in Chriſt Jeſus, *Epheſ.* 2. 6. And ſo God by Chriſt reconcileth all things unto himſelf, by him I ſay whether they be things in Earth, or things in Heaven, and the Goſpel of Life and Salvation is preacht to every Creature under Heaven, *Col.* 1. 23,

And the Apoſtle ſaith to the Hebrews, in the firſt Covenant they had Ordinances of Divine Services, of Ceremonies and a worldly Sanctuary, which Covenant ſtood only in Meats, Drinks, and diverſe Waſhings, and carnal Ordinances, and Ceremonies impoſed on the Jews until the time of Reformation; but Chriſt being come, an High-Prieſt of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect Tabernacle not made with Hands, that is to ſay, not of this Building, namely the old Covenant, *Heb.* 9. 1, 10, 11. who is made a Prieſt, not after the Law of a carnal Commandment, but after the Power of an endleſs Life, *Heb.* 7. 16.

But now once Chriſt in the end of the World hath appeared to put away Sin, by the Sacrifice of himſelf; ſo in the end of the World, of all Worldly Things, Worldy Sanctuaries, Tabernacle and carnal Ordinances, and Commandments, and divers outward Waſhings, and all outward Worldly Tythes, Offerings, and Sacrifices which are Worldly: Now Chriſt once in the end of the World hath appeared to put away Sin by the Sacrifice of himſelf, *Heb.* 9. 25. in the end of all theſe Worldly things, and he is the beginning of a new World with his heavenly things, who makes all things new.

And the Apoſtle ſaith to the Corinthians, upon them the ends of the World are come, that is, the end of all outward worldly things, and he calleth them Babes in Chriſt, *1 Cor.* 10. 11. he could not ſpeak to them but as unto Babes in Chriſt, who were not of this World: He that hath an Ear to hear, let him hear, and read theſe things.

Kingſton upon Thames, the 6th Month, 1689. G. F.

Concerning the Builders that reject the Corner-Stone, and the Husband-Men that kill the Lord's Servants and Son; and how Cain *built the City* Nod, *and* Nimrod *the City* Babel, *and the Apoſtate Chriſtians build the City* Babilon, *and God hath ſet up his City, New and Heavenly* Jeruſalem.

WHAT are all you Prieſts, Biſhops and Teachers, the wiſe Maſter-Builders in Chriſtendom that like the Jews do reject Chriſt the Corner-Stone, and ſo do fulfil the Scriptures like the Jews, who make a Profeſſion of the Letter of the New Teſtament,

ment as the Jews did of the Old, who rebelled against the good Spirit that God gave them to inſtruct them, and reſiſted the Holy Ghoſt, that led the Holy Men of God to give forth the Scriptures, and reſiſted them alſo, and perſecuted them, and reſiſted Chriſt that was conceived by the Holy Ghoſt, and crucified him: And this was the work of ſuch wiſe Maſter-Builders, in the days of Chriſt in the Fleſh. And all you outward Profeſſors of the Letter in Chriſtendom, that look upon your ſelves the wiſe Maſter-Builders, do not you hate the True Light the Life in Chriſt by which he enlightens every one that comes into the World, and do not own it? Then they muſt be Blind-Builders, and do not acknowledge that God pours out of his Spirit of Grace upon all Fleſh, and to lead them and teach them and bring their Salvation; and do not you ſay this is not ſufficient, without you wiſe Maſter-Builders? And do you acknowledge that the Grace and Truth is come by Jeſus, and all People in this Grace and Truth and Spirit, to ſerve and worſhip God? and they that do ſo, and come to forſake you Prieſts, Biſhops and Teachers, that look upon your ſelves to be the wiſe Maſter Builders, are you not then angry, and perſecute ſuch, and ſay they have forſaken the means?

And what are all you Biſhops, Prieſts, Miniſters and Teachers the Keepers of the Vineyard in Chriſtendom? Hath it not been let out to you Husband-Men, and when the Lord hath ſent forth his Servants to look for Fruits among you, Have not you Baniſhed, Impriſoned, Stoned, Hanged, Killed, Burned and put to death many of the Lord's Servants? And have you not crucified to your ſelves afreſh the Son of God, the Heir of the Vineyard, and put him to open Shame, by your evil Lives and Converſations?

And therefore what will the Lord of the Harveſt do unto you Husbandmen think you, that have thus done unto his Servants, and Son, and Heir? do you think you will not all be turned out, and your Vineyards let forth to ſuch as will bring forth Fruits to the Lord? Let all the Perſecutors, and Impriſoners, and Baniſhers in Chriſtendom about Religion ſince the Apoſtles days, conſider this, and what will be your End, who have brought forth no fruit to God, but have diſobeyed him, like *Adam* and the Jews, and followed the Serpent, the Murtherer and Deſtroyer of Men's Lives, and have not followed Chriſt

that

that deſtroys the Devil, and his Works, and came to ſave Mens Lives, and not to deſtroy them, and rebuked ſuch as would have had Mens Lives to be deſtroyed, and told them they did not know what Spirit they were of; and therefore all you Huſbandmen, and Vineyard-keepers, and wiſe Maſter-builders that have deſtroyed ſo many Mens Lives, and Impriſoned, and Baniſhed ſo many, and ſpoiled their Goods, becauſe they would not conform, and be of your Faith, Religion and Worſhip; and you have not been of the true Religion, Faith nor Worſhip of God; Neither know what Spirit you have been of your ſelves, that have done this; Neither have you been nor are in the Spirit of Chriſt, who came to ſave Mens Lives, and not to deſtroy them; and Chriſt did not deſtroy thoſe Samaritans that would not conform and receive him, but rebuked them that would have had Mens Lives deſtroyed by Fire from Heaven.

So not like theſe mad People that build Gallows's and Priſons, and kindle Fires on Earth to deſtroy Men; becauſe they would not receive their invented Ways, Religions and Worſhips, and yet they would be called Chriſtians, after Chriſt's Name, and follow him not in Life, Example and Doctrin.

And *Cain* who diſobeyed God and did not well, who was a Murtherer, though he was a Prieſt, a Sacrificer, he was a Builder of the City *Nod*, and doth not that ſignifie wandering? and in the new World did not *Nimrod* who did not regard the Lord build *Babel* a City of Cnf uſion? and what became of *Nimrod*'s City and Stock?

And did not the Jews who rebelled againſt God and his Law, and Spirit, become Vagabonds, Perſecutours, and Murtherers of the Righteous?

And have not the Chriſtians ſince the Apoſtles days that hate the true Light the Life in Chriſt, and are erred from the Spirit of God, that he hath poured upon all Fleſh to lead and guide them, and the Truth and Grace of God that comes by Jeſus, to teach them and bring their Salvation; have not theſe been the Builders of *Babylon*, the City of Confuſion, ſince the Apoſtle's days, in whoſe City the Blood of the Prophets and Martyrs of Jeſus is found, ſo that they are become drunk with the Blood of the Righteous, and Prophets, and Martyrs of Jeſus? and is not the Dragon, Beaſt, and falſe Prophet found in this City? but down they muſt fall, and God will reward them according to their Works.

And

And there was ſcarce a Righteous Man, or a Prophet, but they ſuffered in outward *Jeruſalem*, by the tranſgreſſing Jews; for Chriſt ſaid, nevertheleſs, I muſt walk to day, and to morrow, and the day following; for it cannot be that a Prophet periſh out of *Jeruſalem*, *Luke* 13. 33. But God is ſetting up his new and heavenly *Jeruſalem*, into which, neither the Dragon, the old Serpent, nor the Beaſt that roſe out of the Sea, the Sea Beaſt, nor the Beaſt that roſe out of the Earth, the Land Beaſt, nor the falſe Prophet, nor the Whore of *Babylon*, nor no Perſecutor or unclean Perſon can enter, though the Gate ſtands open Night and Day, but ſuch who walk in the Light of the Lamb, and their Names are written in the Book of the Lamb, and the Glory of the Lord, and the Lamb is the Light thereof; Hallelujah forever, and the Nations of them that are ſaved walk in the Light of this City.

The 19th. of the 7th. Month, 168'.

NEWS, News, *Cain* that wrathful Murtherer of the Righteous is become a Chriſtian, but hath not left his wrathful hatred, Murther and Perſecution, but ſtill remains a wicked one.

And News, News, Wild *Iſhmael* whoſe hand is againſt every Man is become an outward Chriſtan, and hath put on the Sheeps Cloathing, but remains in his mocking and ſcoffing, perſecuting Birth at the Seed of the Promiſe.

News, News, profane *Eſau*, that Man of the Field, which deſpiſeth his everlaſting Birth-right, who is the firſt Birth who would have ſlain *Jacob*, he is become on outward Chriſtian, but he hath not put off his rough Garment, by that he may be known not to be a Sheep of Chriſt.

News, News, *Core*, *Dathan*, and *Abiram* are become outward Chriſtians, but ſtill remain with their falſe Fire, till they be conſumed by the Lord's Fire, and remain in their Rebellion and Gainſaying till the Earth ſwallow them up, ſo they may be known by their falſe Fire, Gainſaying and Rebellion againſt the Law and Goſpel.

Strange News, *Baalam*, that Layer of Stumbling-blocks before God's People, is become an outward Chriſtian, but he remains in his Errour, and coveteth after the Wages of Unrighteouſneſs, and why may not *Balaam* become a Chriſtian as well as the Sons, or

Followers

Followers of *Simon Magus*, who buy their natural Gift for Mony, and ſell it for Mony, as old *Simon*, who thought to have bought the ſpiritual Gift for Mony, and have ſold it for Mony.

And becauſe we cannot give covetous *Balaam* his Wages of Unrighteouſneſs, and the Followers of *Simon Magus*, Mony for their Gifts, they are and have been very angry, and full of Wrath, Envy and Malice, and perſecuted us, but they are known to all true Chriſtians to be of the Seed of *Balaam*, and of Old *Simon Magus*, and not of Chriſt.

The 12th. Month, 168[illegible].

CHriſt ſaid to his Apoſtles, Diſciples and Miniſters, when he ſent them forth to preach his Goſpel; freely you have received, freely give; ſo the Miniſters of the Goſpel are diſtinct from the Miniſters and Teachers of the Law; for they had Tythes and Offerings, and other things for miniſtring and teachingthe Law, and that which the Law commanded in the Old Covenant and Teſtament, which Law ſerved until Chriſt came in his Goſpel and new Covenant, and New Teſtament, and he ſent forth Miniſters of his New Covenant and New Teſtament, whom he made able Miniſters of the Spirit, not of the Letter, which ſowed to the Spirit, not to the Fleſh, and of the Spirit they reaped Life-eternal. And to them that he ſent forth he ſaid, freely you have received, freely give; namely, his Gifts that are perfect, his Grace, *&c.* his Spirit or Holy Ghoſt, that comes from the Father and the Son, his Faith which he is the Author and Finiſher of, his Everlaſting Glorious Goſpel of Life and Salvation; theſe are Heavenly Spiritual and Divine things, which they received freely from Chriſt, and they were to give them freely again to People, and they were not to ſell and bargain with People for ſo much a year, and to ſell them theſe Spiritual Gifts; for by the laying on of the Apoſtles Hands many received the Holy Ghoſt. And *Simon Magus* profered the Apoſtles Mony, and would have bought this Gift, that on whomſoever he laid his Hands, they might receive the Holy Ghoſt; but the Apoſtle told him, that he was in the Gall of Bitterneſs and the Bond of Iniquity, that thought the Gift of God could be bought and ſold for Mony, ſo are all they that be in his belief. And though *Paul* Plant, and *Apollo* may Water, yet they gave this Water of Life freely. And

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the general Proclamation both by *Isaiah* and *John in his* Revelations is, O every one that thirſteth, come freely to the Waters of Life. So they were to eat and drink the Heavenly Food freely, and hear the Goſpel freely, and what the Spirit ſaith to the Churches; ſo they were to come without Mony, and without Price, and not to ſpend their Mony for that which is not Bread, and their Labour for that which doth not ſatisfie; and all that thirſted were to come without Mony, and without Price, and hearken diligently and their Soul ſhould live. So Heavenly and Spiritual things and the Gifts of God, are not to be bought and ſold for Mony; though they did eat of their carnal, and what was ſet before them that did miniſter ſpiritual things to them; though in the time of the Law, Tythes were called Holy, but they are not in the Goſpel, for Chriſt makes all things Holy; and his Miniſters that freely did give his Spiritual things, and bid them give them freely again, they did believe in Chriſt and truſt in him for outward things; and when that he ſent them forth without Bag or Staff, and when they returned again, he asked them if they wanted any thing? And they ſaid nay, for he was able to ſupply them he ſent forth, when he was able to feed ſo many with a few Loaves and Fiſhes, and when the Diſciples had been toyling all Night with their Nets and could catch no Fiſh but Chriſt bid them caſt their Net again into the Sea, which they did, and drew it out, and at his Word the Net was full of Fiſh; and therefore whom Chriſt ſends forth with his Power and Holy Ghoſt, and ſaith unto them, freely you have received, freely give, theſe dare truſt Chriſt both with carnal and temporal things, both for Themſelves and Families, and ſuch labour to keep the Goſpel of Chriſt without charge, ſo that none can ſay it is a chargeable Goſpel; and the Apoſtles and they that did ſucceed them in the ſame Spirit, did convert more Jews and Heathen to Chriſt by their free Preaching, than ever the Papiſts and Proteſtants have done this thouſand years, for they converted them with Spiritual Weapons and Armour, which Chriſt armed them withal, but have not Proteſtants and Papiſts made them turn from one Sect to another with carnal Weapons?

And in the Old Teſtament they had Singers, and ſo they have now in their Cathedrals; but Singing in the Grace, and Singing and Praying in the Spirit and the Holy Ghoſt, this is in the Gift of God, this is not to be done for Mony but freely, as the Grace and Spirit of God moves, them in his Wiſdom, in his Goſpel-day. And the Apoſtle ſaith, we ſpeak Wiſdom among them that are

perfect, but not the Wisdom of this World, for *Job* saith, that Wisdom cannot be purchased for Gold, Silver nor Pearls, for such things cannot be equalled nor valued with the Gift of God; for all the Ministers of God and Christ in the New Testament, their heavenly and spiritual Gifts and Things, which they have freely received from Christ, they are freely to give them again, for they are not to be valued equalled nor purchased for Gold, Silver nor precious Stones, for they that think they can either be bought or sold for Mony, they are in the Spirit of *Simon Magus*, and not in the Holy Ghost, nor Spirit and Power of Christ, that the Apostles were in.

And the Apostle saith, obey them that have the Rule over you, and submit your selves, for they watch for your Souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with Joy, and not with Grief, *Heb.* 13. 17. And the Apostle said in *Acts* 20. that the Holy Ghost had made them Overseers.

Now the Ministers and Teachers both of the Protestants and Papists, bring these Scriptures, and say they are Ministers that do watch for the Souls of People, that they may present them to God, *&c.* and call themselves the Curers of Souls, and yet they say they have not the same Power and Holy Ghost that the Apostles had, and yet they will confess and acknowledge that the Soul is Immortal, and that God breathed into the Man the Breath of Life, and he became a living Soul, and in his hand is the Soul of every living thing, and the breath of all Mankind, *Job* 12. 10.

Now the Hand of God is Immortal and Spiritual, and is it like that they should watch for the Immortal Soul and cure it, and are not in the same Holy Ghost and Spirit of Christ, and Power of God that the Apostles and Overseers were in, in the Primitive times? And is it like that any should present the Immortal Souls to the Immortal God, and cure them without the Immortal Power and Holy Ghost that the Apostles were in? For both the Papist and Protestant Teachers, have confessed that they have not the same Power and Holy Ghost that the Apostles were in. Therefore I say they are not like to cure the Immortal Souls, and present them to the Immortal God, without the same Power and Holy Ghost that the Apostles were in.

Now all the Priests, Ministers and Teachers, both of Protestants and Papists, pretend to preach the everlasting Gospel, which is the Power of God, unto Salvation to every one that believes; but how unlike is it they should know the everlasting Gospel, the Power of God and preach it, and have not the same Power and Holy Ghost,

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that the Apoſtles had? Therefore I ſay ſuch cannot preach the everlaſting Goſpel, and Power of God, and not be in the everlaſting Power and Holy Ghoſt.

And again, the Papiſt and Proteſtant Teachers ſay, they preach the Kingdom of God, and the Grace and Faith of Chriſt: Grace and Faith are the Gifts of God and Chriſt which are perfect, and Chriſt who aſcended on High, and gives Gifts unto Men to bring them to the knowledge of the Son of God, and to the Unity of the Faith, and unto a perfect Man, *&c.* And the Papiſts ſay they muſt have a Purgatory when they are dead, and the Proteſtants ſay they muſt have a Body of Death and Sins of the Fleſh, whilſt on this ſide the Grave, and that there is no Perfection while upon the Earth, and how are ſuch like to preach the Faith, Grace and the Gifts of God which are perfect, and are for the perfecting of the Saints, and to bring People to a perfect Man, when they have not received theſe perfect Gifts freely from God and Chriſt? And how can they preach the Kingdom of God, that ſtands in Righteouſneſs and Peace, and Joy in the Holy Ghoſt, and have not the ſame Holy Ghoſt as the Apoſtles had? And how are ſuch like to preach Spiritual and Heavenly *Jeruſalem* the Mother of all true Chriſtians, where no unclean things enter, and have not the ſame Power and Holy Ghoſt that the Apoſtles were in, but follow their own Spirits in their natural Arts, Tongues and Sciences, which they have purchaſed for Mony? And how are ſuch like to preach Chriſt, who ſaith, I am from Above, and not of this World? And are ſuch with their natural Gifts, Tongues and Sciences that are below, like to preach Chriſt Jeſus and the Truth as it is in him? And the Scripture ſaith that none can call Jeſus Chriſt Lord, but by the Holy Ghoſt, and they that have not the Spirit of Chriſt are none of his, and therefore how can ſuch be the Miniſters of Chriſt, and have not the Spirit of Chriſt and the Holy Ghoſt, that the Apoſtles were in? And therefore the Apoſtle ſaith, ſuch as have not the Spirit of Chriſt are none of his; therefore they are none of his Meſſengers, Miniſters and Teachers. And the Papiſt and Proteſtant Teachers which do oppoſe the true Light of Chriſt, which enlightens every Man that comes into the World, which is the Life in Chriſt, who with their darkneſs cannot comprehend it, though it ſhines in their darkneſs, and are haters of the light, becauſe their deeds are evil, and will not come to it, becauſe it will reprove them: And ſo cloſe their eyes and ſtop their ears to the light, which is the Life in Chriſt, and ſo will not hear with their ears, nor ſee with their eyes; ſo they are not like to be converted to Chriſt, and he to heal them,

when they ſtop their ears to the Divinity of Chriſt, namely, his light the life in him, which Chriſt commands them to believe in and walk in, and yet without the light the life in Chriſt, pretend to preach him in the Fleſh, and deny him in his Divinity. And the Apoſtle ſaith, he had known Chriſt after the Fleſh, but henceforth he knew him ſo no more. But what will the Teachers both of Papiſts and Proteſtants ſay to this, that deny Chriſt the true light which enlightens every Man that comes into the World? And ſuch are not like, neither can they preach Chriſt truly as he was in his Fleſh, nor him in his Divinity; nor none can, except they be in the ſame Power of God and Holy Ghoſt, that the Apoſtles were in, that leadeth into all Truth, they are not like to preach the Truth as it is in Jeſus, not being led into it by the Spirit of Truth; for Chriſt ſaith the Holy Ghoſt ſhall take of mine and give unto you, and bring unto your remembrance the things that Chriſt had ſpoken; and ſuch are not like to preach the ſpiritual things, that the Holy Ghoſt receives of Chriſt, and have not the Holy Ghoſt to receive them. And the Apoſtle ſaith, the things of God we ſpeak, not in the words which Man's wiſdom teacheth, but in the words which the Holy Ghoſt doth teach, and you that have not the ſame Holy Ghoſt that the Apoſtles had, are not like to have the words that the Holy Ghoſt teacheth, to ſpeak the things of God in, but you ſpeak the things of God in the words that Man's wiſdom teacheth, by which wiſdom the World knows not God nor his things, and ſo are Miniſters of the Letter and old Authors, and not of the Spirit.

The 11th of the ſecond Month, 1690.

AND if that Chriſt had cauſed Fire to come down from Heaven upon the Samaritans to have conſumed them, as the zealous Diſciples would have had him, who were without the true knowledge, for they did not then know what ſpirit they were of, when they deſired ſuch a thing of Chriſt; but Chriſt ſaid unto them, that he came not to deſtroy Men's Lives, but to ſave them, and if that they had been deſtroyed, then there could not have been ſo many of the Samaritans converted after Chriſt Jeſus was aſcended; ſo that the Diſciples heard at *Jeruſalem*, and they ſent to *Samaria Peter* and *John*, to *Philip* who were at *Samaria*, and preached Chriſt there, and the People there with one accord gave heed unto thoſe things which *Philip* ſpake.

If that King *Manaſſes*, that great Idolater had been cut off by the Jews in his Idolatry, then he had not repented, as it is ſaid he did.

And if the Chriſtians had killed *Saul* that great Perſecutour, then

then he had not repented and become a Chriſtian, and been called *Paul*. And all thoſe thouſands of Jews, that were converted after Chriſt was aſcended by the Apoſtles, which were not converted before Chriſt was crucified; if that Chriſt in the days of his Fleſh had cauſed them to be impriſoned, and their Goods ſpoyled, and to be put to death, then they after had not been converted, that oppoſed him.

And is it not ſaid, that Chriſt will conſume and deſtroy the Man of Sin, the Myſtery of Iniquity, who letteth, oppoſeth, and exalteth himſelf above all that is called God; ſo Vengeance is the Lords and he will repay it, and all Men and Women are to obey the Law of God, and Command of Chriſt; Love thy Neighbour as thy ſelf, and do unto all as they would have others do unto them, which is the Law, and the Prophets, and Chriſt and the Apoſtles taught it. Now would any have others to burn, or hang, or priſon, and ſpoyl their Goods, and baniſh them, becauſe that they will not be of anothers Religion, and forſake their own? and they that will not be ſo done to themſelves, and do think it is hard for others to do ſo to them, then is it not hard for them to do ſo to others, and will not be ſo done to themſelves? then do not ſuch that do ſo to others, as they would not have them do to them, do contrary to the Law and the Prophets, Chriſt and the Apoſtles, (to wit) to love thy Neighbour as thy ſelf, and to do to others as you would have others do unto you? *G. F.*

THere is and hath been a great deal of ſtir among ſeveral ſorts of People called Chriſtians, about the eating and drinking of Bread and Wine, ſome call it a Sacrament, and ſome call it a Chriſt after they have bleſſed it, and conſecrated it, as they call it; and alſo they that do not ſay the Elements of Bread and Wine is the Body and Blood of Chriſt, or the very Chriſt, they take it upon their Knees kneeling; *Exod.* 12 10,11. & 20. 4. *Deut.* 5.8,9. the Jews were not to eat the Paſſover which God commanded upon their Knees, or to kneel down and eat it; for where did the Lord command the Jews to kneel down to any thing that he commanded them to take or eat? And all the Figures and Shadows or Types, where did the Lord ever command the Jews to bow or kneel down to ſuch things, but they were to bow down to the Lord, and ſerve and worſhip him? For do not you after you have conſecrated the Elements of Bread and Wine, and make you a Chriſt and a God of it; do not ſome of you bow down and kneel down to it? and it is but Elements of Bread and

Wine

Wine when you have done? And the Lord ſaith, Thou ſhalt not make the likeneſs of any thing that is in Heaven, *&c.* and do not you make a likeneſs of Chriſt, who ſitteth at the right hand of God in Heaven of the Elements of Bread and Wine? and this is a Breach of the Command of God.

Now when the Evening was come Chriſt ſat down with his Twelve Diſciples, as in *Matt.* 26. 20. to the 31. ſo he doth not ſay they kneeled or bowed, but they ſat down, when they eat the laſt Supper with Chriſt. And again in *Mark* 17. 18. And in the Evening Jeſus cometh with his Twelve Diſciples, and as they ſat and did eat Jeſus ſaid unto them, *&c.* here you may ſee they ſat and did eat. It is not ſaid they bowed or kneeled and did eat: But they ſat with the King of Kings and Lord of Lords at ſupper the Night before he was crucified. And in *Luke* 22. 14. And when the hour was come, Chriſt ſat down and the Twelve Apoſtles with him; it is not ſaid they bowed down or kneeled down, but they ſat down with Chriſt when they did eat the Bread and Wine.

And therefore you that profeſs the Scripture is your Rule, why do you force People to bow and kneel, when they take the Elements of Bread and Wine, *&c.* ſeeing here are three Witneſſes, *Matthew*, *Mark* and *Luke*, that all ſay they ſat down with Chriſt at the laſt Supper the ſame Night that he was betrayed, when they drank and did eat, and never one of them ſay, they bowed or kneeled when they drank of the Fruit of the Vine, and eat of the Bread in remembrance of Chriſt to ſhew forth his Death till he come? Of this you may ſee more at large, in a Book Entitled, a Diſtinction betwixt the two Suppers of Chriſt, of Gifts, to wit, the Supper when he was betrayed, and the Supper after he was aſcended.

And when did ever Chriſt or the Apoſtles command them to make an Altar, and bow to it or before it, and ſet up outward Candles in outward Candleſticks, to burn Night and Day in the outward Churches or Sanctuaries as you call them, as your Papiſts do? and do not the Unreformed Proteſtants bow before the Altar that they have made, and ſet up an outward Candle in an outward Candleſtick? though they do not light them, there they ſtand ready if the Pope ſhould command them to be lighted: Theſe things, Altars, Candles and Candleſticks, lighted or unlighted, and bowing or kneeling to your Altars, and Bread and Wine when you take it; had you not all theſe things from the Pope and Papiſts, and not from Chriſt and his Apoſtles? And if you obſerve the Apoſtles they took Bread and Wine at Night after Supper; but you take it before Dinner, and yet you ſay the Scripture is your Rule: And Chriſt ſaid unto *John*,

Rev.

Rev. 1. 20 the ſeven Candleſticks which thou ſaweſt are the ſeven Churches, ſo they were not ſeven outward Candleſticks ſet up in the Churches, as you call them, but the ſeven Churches were the ſeven Golden Candleſticks which held the Light of Chriſt which ſhines continually; ſo the Church of Chriſt was, and ſo the Church of Chriſt is now.

And the Apoſtle ſaith, for both he that ſanctifieth and they that are ſanctified are all of one, for which Cauſe Chriſt is not aſhamed to call them Brethren; ſaying, I will declare thy Name unto my Brethren, in the Midſt of the Church will I ſing Praiſes unto thee, *Heb.* 2. 11, 12. *Rev.* 1. 15. So where two or three are gathered together in his Name, he is in the Midſt; and the Church of Chriſt is the Golden Candleſtick, and Chriſt is in the Midſt: So he is a Light in the Midſt of the ſeven Golden Candleſticks; ſo unto God be Glory in the Church by Jeſus Chriſt throughout all Ages, World without End, *Amen.* Epheſ. 3. 21.

And the Jews in the firſt Covenant had Ordinances of Divine Service, and a worldly Sanctuary, and a Tabernacle, and a Candleſtick; but hath not Chriſt aboliſhed all theſe worldly things, which were made and pitcht by Men, as in *Heb.* 9. 1, 2. But Chriſt our High-Prieſt is a Miniſter of the Sanctuary, and of the true Tabernacle, which the Lord pitched and not Man, *Heb.* 8. 1, 2.

And the Apoſtle ſaith, hence forth know we no Man after the fleſh, yea, though we have known Chriſt after the fleſh, yet now henceforth know we him no more, namely, Chriſt after the fleſh; and is not henceforth, time to come, 2 *Cor.* 5. 16. So the Apoſtles were far off from making a Chriſt of the Elements of Bread and Wine, both his Fleſh, Bones and Sinews, when they ſaid yea, though we have known Chriſt after the fleſh, yet now henceforth know we him no more (to wit after the fleſh,) then was it not in the Spirit, and his God-head, and as he was God? But what work have the Papiſts made to pretend to make Fleſh, Blood and Bones of Chriſt of the Elements of Bread and Wine, and bowing down to it, and worſhiping it, and burning and killing ſuch as would not?

Now they that in the Apoſtles days did take the Elements of Bread and Wine in remembrance, and in a ſhew of Chriſt's death till he came, and Chriſt ſaid that he would come again to his Diſciples, and did ſo; and Chriſt was put to death in the fleſh, and not his God-head, nor as he was God, who ſaith, being put to death in the fleſh, but quickned by the Spirit, 1 *Pet.* 3. 18. And Jeſus ſaid, if any Man love me he will keep my words, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our abode with him: And again Chriſt

ſaith

ſaith, you have heard how I ſaid unto you, I go away and come again unto you; if ye love me ye would rejoyce, *John* 14. 23, 28. he that hath an Ear to hear let him hear.

And where did ever the Apoſtles take Bread and Wine in remembrance of Chriſt's death in the fleſh after they had ſaid, though we have known Chriſt after the fleſh, yet now henceforth know we him no more, *viz.* after the fleſh.

And now you Papiſts that call your ſelves Roman Catholicks, that is, Univerſal, and yet you did ſay in a diſpute, that you had not the ſame Power and Holy Ghoſt that the Apoſtles had in the Primitive Times, and yet you do ſay after you have conſecrated Bread and Wine, it is the Body of Chriſt, both his Fleſh, Blood and Bones, yea the very whole Chriſt, and yet he hath neither Legs, Hands nor Mouth, and can neither ſpeak, hear, ſee nor go; and why cannot you make a Virgin *Mary*, the Mother of Chriſt, as well as make a Chriſt, and a St. *Peter* of Bread and Wine, as well as a Chriſt; and ſet him up in a Chair, as well as ſet up a Pope in *Peter*'s Chair, as you call it?

And is not this a ſtrange jugling, that you ſhould turn Wine into Blood, and Bread into Fleſh, Bones and Sinews? this is as ſtrange Miracle as ever was heard of in the World, wrought by an unclean Ghoſt, for ſome Popiſh Prieſts confeſt in a diſpute with ſome Quakers at *Tho.* Apoſtles in *Gert. Robert*'s houſe, when it was askt you whether you had the ſame Holy Ghoſt as the Apoſtles had, and you denyed it, and ſaid, It was Preſumption to affirm any ſuch thing; and then it was ſaid unto you then it was not like that you ſhould be led into all Truth: In what could you pray and in what was your Fellowſhip? It could not be but in the Unclean Ghoſt, which led out of all Truth, for the Holy Ghoſt led the Apoſtles and the Church of Chriſt into all Truth; and they prayed in the Holy Ghoſt, and had Fellowſhip in the Holy Ghoſt, and the Apoſtles, and the Church of Chriſt never did ſay nor pretend, that with the Holy Ghoſt, They could turn Wine into Blood, and Bread into Fleſh, Bones and Sinews, and then ſay it was the whole Chriſt, and eat him when they have done; and they that would not believe it to burn them, as you Papiſts have done, who pretend to turn Wine into Blood, and Bread into Fleſh, Bones and Sinews, and ſay it is the whole Chriſt, which could neither ſpeak, ſee nor go: Strange Monſter Makers, with your unclean Ghoſt, and when you have done you eat him; and when we have ſaid unto you, and deſired you to try your Chriſt whether his Fleſh and Blood will not corrupt, to have part of the Wine, and the Bread you conſecrated, lock'd up with the unconſecrated in a Cellar,

[redacted], and ſeven Proteſtants and ſeven Papiſts to keep watch over the Cellar, and if the conſecrated did corrupt, mould and die as the other, then you ſhould turn to us, but if it prove Immortal, and the very Fleſh, Blood and Bones of Chriſt, then we would all turn to you, and this would bring Truth to Light, and Honour to God, for you have burnt and put many to death, becauſe they could not believe in your great Miracle and Monſter, that you have made with your unclean Ghoſt; for we are in the Catholick Faith, ſet up in the Apoſtles days, which Jeſus Chriſt was and is the Author and Finiſher of, and we are redeemed not with corruptible things, but with the precious Blood of Jeſus Chriſt, as of a Lamb without blemiſh and without ſpot. And the Apoſtle ſaith, Chriſt's Fleſh did not ſee Corruption, and though he was crucified, nayled to the Croſs, and his Side run into with a Spear, and dead and buried, and was three days and three nights in the Sepulcher, yet his Fleſh ſaw no corruption and did not change; for the Apoſtle ſaith, the Lord did not ſuffer Chriſt his holy one to ſee corruption. And therefore it is ſaid, did my Heart rejoyce, my Tongue was glad, more alſo, my Fleſh ſhall reſt in Hope, whom God raiſed from the dead to ſit upon his Throne, and his Fleſh ſaw no corruption, *Acts* 2. 26, 27, 31, 32. And therefore now you Papiſts come out and try your great Monſter and Miracle as before.

The 6th. of the 1ſt. Month, 168[illegible]. G F.

The Tryal of the Popes Spirit.

WILL the Pope let the Proteſtants have their Meetings peaceable in *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Italy* and *Rome*, and in all the Cities or Dominions where he or his have Power? If that he, or his, do deſire that his People ſhould have their Meetings peaceable in the Nations, Kingdoms, Cities or Governments, where the Proteſtants have the Power; come let us ſee if he hath ſo much Holineſs or Infallibility, to do unto others as he would have

others do unto him (I ſay to do unto others, as he would others do unto him) that is, to let others of a different Perſwaſion from him have their liberty, as he would have his, ſeeing they all profeſs Chriſt in words as before, if not, he is below the Law and the Prophets, and ſhort of a Chriſtian; and if his actions be below the Law and the Prophets and Chriſtianity, it is then a ſhame to talk of Infallibility and Holineſs.

Concerning the Kingdom of God.

THE Law and the Prophets were until *John*, who was the greateſt Prophet born of a Woman, but the leaſt in the Kingdom of God is greater then *John*, and ſince *John Baptiſt* the Kingdom of God is Preached, and Men do preſs into the Kingdom. So the everlaſting Kingdom of God is the end of the Law and the Prophets, and *John*, for the everlaſting Kingdom of God ſtands in Righteouſneſs, Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghoſt, which the Law and the Prophets and *John* called for, and was held forth by them in Figures, Types and Shadows, and *John* run before and prepared the way to the Kingdom, and they that are in the Kingdom are in the Subſtance, and in the end of the Law and the Prophets and *John*'s Miniſtration, and are in the end of all things that do change; for the Kingdom of God is everlaſting, and doth not change.

Moſes was faithful in all his Houſe, as a Servant for a Teſtimony of thoſe things which were to be ſpoken after.——But Chriſt as a Son over his Houſe, whoſe Houſe we are that be Children of Heavenly *Jeruſalem.*—— For *Moſes* was over the Houſe of *Iſrael* with their Figures and Shadows, but Chriſt Jeſus who is the Subſtance is over his great Spiritual Houſe, who hath all Power in Heaven and Earth given to him, who doth enlighten all their Spirits in the Houſe or Tabnernacle of fallen *Adam*, which Light is the Life in Chriſt, by whom *Adam* and *Eve* were made, and all things that were made were made by Chriſt; for *Aaron* did light the outward Candles and Lamps in the outward Tabernacles, that were made with Hands. But Chriſt the great Prophet, Prieſt Biſhop and Shepherd, doth enlighten the Spirits of Men, the Candle of the Lord in their Tabernacles, not made with Hands, with his true

true Heavenly Divine Light, which is the Life in himſelf, the Word by whom all things were made as before. So Chriſt is over his great Houſe, an Enlightner, a Quickner, a Saviour, a Redeemer, a Counſellor, a Leader, a Captain, a Prophet to open, a Shepherd to feed, a Biſhop to overſee, and a King and Lord to Rule, Order and Govern in his great Spiritual Houſe, which he is the head of, and a Father that doth take care for his great heavenly and ſpiritual Houſe and Family, and he ſhall Reign over the Houſe of *Jacob* forever, and of his Kingdom there ſhall be no End, *Luke* 1. 33. And you do read that ſome would not have Chriſt to rule over them, and what became of them that ſaid, We will not have this Man to rule over us, *Luke* 19. 14. but theſe were not of the Houſe of *Jacob* the 2*d* Birth; but of *Eſau*, that profane Perſons Birth or Nature.

For all the outward Pleaſures, Delights, Lightneſs, Wantonneſs, vain Glory, and Profaneneſs will periſh and come to naught, with all fooliſh Jeſting and Idle vain Talk, and idle Words, is judged and will vaniſh away, like the Smoak, and all Unholineſs, Unrighteouſneſs and Ungodlineſs, Looſeneſs, Debauchery, Uncleanneſs, proud Boaſting, Loftineſs and Haughtineſs, is judged out of the Kingdom of God and Chriſt.

For behold a King ſhall rule in Righteouſneſs, *Iſaiah* 32. 1. And his Scepter is a Scepter of Righteouſneſs, and the Lord ſhall Reign forever unto all Generations, praiſe ye the Lord: and by Chriſt Kings do rule, and Princes do decree Juſtice, and all the Judges of the Earth: And *Iſaiah* 11. 10. & *Rom.* 15. 12. There ſhall be a Root of *Jeſſe*, and he that ſhall ariſe to reign over the Gentiles, in him ſhall the Gentiles truſt, therefore praiſe the Lord all ye Gentiles, and laud him all ye People, *Pſal.* 117. 1. For Chriſt in you is the Hope of Glory, and Chriſt is to dwell in your hearts, to wit the Saints by Faith, ſaith the Apoſtle, for Chriſt is the ſame to day as he was yeſterday, and ſo forever, and Chriſt Jeſus is made an High Prieſt forever; and again, thou art a Prieſt forever. For the Law made High-Prieſts which have Infirmities; but the Word of an Oath which was ſince the Law, maketh the Son who is conſecrated for evermore. And Chriſt ſaith to *John*, I am he that liveth and was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.

So Chriſt hath ſet up his Kingdom, which ſhall never have an End, and all Power in Heaven and in the Earth is given to him, and the Saints that are born again do ſee his Kingdom, and preſs into it, and are Heirs and Poſſeſſors of it.

And

And they that do ſing the Song of *Moſes*, and of the Lamb, ſaid, that he is King of Saints; and *Hezekiah* ſaid, thou art the God, even thou alone of all the Kingdoms of the Earth; ſo not only of the Kingdom of *Iſrael* but of all the Earth, and the good Seed are the Children of the Kingdom; but the Tares that the wicked one, the Devil ſoweth, are the Children of the wicked one; and no Man having put his hand to the Plough, and looketh back, is fit for the Kingdom of God, *Luke* 9. 62.

And when that Jeſus perceived, that they would make him a King by force, he departed into a Mountain himſelf alone, *John* 6. 15. For Chriſt was anointed King by the Lord, and ſo he knew that he need not be made King by Man; for *Zachariah* in the 9. Chap. ſaith, fear not Daughter of *Sion*, *John* 12. 15. Behold thy King cometh upon an Aſs-Colt; and was not this fulfilled when Chriſt came? but it was their Spiritual King, and they would not have him to reign in Spirit.

And *Nathaniel* called Chriſt the Son of God, and King of *Iſrael*: And the Apoſtle tells the *Coloſſians*, that they were tranſlated into the Kingdom of God's dear Son, *Col.* 1. 13. To the King of Eternal, Immortal, Inviſible, the only Wiſe, be Honour and Glory, forever and forever, *Amen.*

Here is an Immortal, Eternal, Inviſible King, and is known by his inviſible Holy Spirit, and rules in the hearts, and in the Kingdom of Heaven in Men and Women, who is the only Potentate the King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, and hath Immortality, and dwelleth in the Light: And *John* ſaid, that he was in the Kingdom and Patience of Jeſus Chriſt, when that he was in the Iſle of *Patmos*; and that Chriſt the firſt begotten from the dead, he is the Prince of the Kings of the Earth, and hath made us Kings and Prieſts Spiritual; unto God his Father, to him be Glory and Dominion forever and ever, *Amen.* *Rev.* 19. 16. And upon Chriſt is written a Name, that he is King of Kings, and Lord of Lords; and they that ſee this Name, and the writing it is with a Spiritual Eye.

G. F.

F I N I S.